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SUPREME SOVIET BODIES APPROVE CONVENTION ON USE OF ENVIRONMENT

LD121806Y Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--The Foreign Affairs Commissions of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities--two houses of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR--unanimously approved today at a joint meeting in the Kremlin the convention of the prohibition of action to influence the environment for military and other hostile purposes. In the adopted conclusion they recommended the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to ratify the convention. Taking the floor at the meeting, Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, said: The importance and urgency of the solution of this problem was dictated by the fact that an ever growing number of states is being involved now in research to modify the processes occurring in nature and linked with possible changes of the climate and other geophysical phenomena. The conclusion of this convention is yet another important step called upon to block a whole trend in the possible development of new methods of warfare, to deliver the present and future generations of the danger arising from a brutal destruction of the natural environment in which human civilication is developing.

Boris Ponomarev, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities, said in his speech: "The policy of the Soviet state is aimed at blocking all the channels of the arms race, at stopping, on the one hand, the stockpiling of the already existing types of weapons, and then going over to their reduction, on the other, at preventing the development of new, yet uninvented weapons. This is why the Soviet Union, together with other peace-loving forces, is making active efforts to prevent the creation of a new, particularly inhuman means of annihiliation--the neutron weapon. This is why the Soviet Union has also come out as the initiator of the international agreement on the prohibition of action to influence the environment for military or other hostile purposes, regarding it as an important element in the struggle to end the arms race. There are serious grounds for fear, Boris Ponomarev stressed, that methods of influencing the weather and geophysical processes might be used also for destructive military purposes harming the wellbeing and health of human beings. According to press reports, during the aggression against Vietnam special operations were carried out for several years over the territories of the Indochina states to cause or intensify rains artifically by "impregnating" the clouds. This was done to flood certain areas of Indochina, destroy roads, dams and river crossings.

There are real possibilities for implementing several other methods of influencing the environment and the climate for military purposes, Boris Ponomarev noted. Press reports mention the possibility of influencing the ozone layer in the upper sections of the atmosphere to intensify the penetration of ultra-violet radiation over these or other areas of the earth's surface, which would gravely harm human and all other living beings. Understandable and timely therefore is the considered convention, Ponomarev said. Its signatories commit themselves not to resort to the military or any other hostile use of means to influence the environment. On the other hand, the convention does not prevent the modification of nature for peaceful purposes. It will promote the development of international cooperation in this sphere.

Discussion of the convention on the prohibition of action to influence the environment in military and other hostile purposes has shown, in the opinion of the Foreign Affairs Commissions of both houses of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, that its ratification and entry into force will be an important factor of improving the international climate, will serve to deepen the detente, will contribute to the cause of ridding mankind of the danger of the use of new types and systems of weapons, to the curbing of the arms race.

Boris Ponomarev expressed the hope that the parliaments of other countries would ratify the convention shortly, that the U.S. Congress, too, would do this without delay.

ZORIN CRITICIZES U.S. SPORTSLIKE APPROACH TO ARMS ISSUES

LD131110Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] American press comment on the SALT talks reminds me of something I've noticed time and again on my visits to the United States. People see politics as a sport and in sports, as we know, there's always a winning side and a losing side. When it comes to domestic politics, the election campaigns offer a good example. I get the impression that for many Americans what's interesting in election campaigns is not the platforms of the candidates but the race itself. Media coverage, especially television coverage, contributes to this focus. The news media show more interest in the personalities of the rival candidates than in the ideas that they stand for and in manner of presentation the coverage smacks strongly of a sports commentary. At any rate this is the impression of a foreigner. I don't say this by way of criticism. Americans have a right to their own style. I don't wish to copy those American journalists who like to preach to other nations and hold up American politics as an example to follow. But I do feel I have a right to express an opinion when the sporting style, if we may call it that, is applied to something that concerns the Soviet Union.

When American news analysts discuss the SALT talks the majority seem to view them from only one angle: Who will gain and who will lose? On what must the Soviet Union make concessions and where must the United States stand firm? What needs to be done to make sure the United States comes out on top, and the like. The sporting style may be applicable to American domestic politics. It's not for me to say, but I do feel it does not at all suit the problem of slowing down the arms race and moving towards disarmament. It's not suitable because neither the United States nor the Soviet Union gains from continuation of the arms race. Both only lose. No one can win the arms race, as President Brezhnev said recently. The decades since the war have borne this out. The Pentagon tried time and again to outstrip the Soviet Union militarily. America has spent hundreds of billions of dollars to this end and with no results, and there's no chance such attempts will ever bring success. The American press has claimed the Soviet Union wants the neutron weapon outlawed not because it considers the weapon immoral, but because it doesn't have it and is a long way from developing it. This is naive thinking, to say the least. Back in the 1960s when the idea of the neutron weapon was first conceived in America scientists with vision warned that the United States had no chance of shooting ahead in that area. The Soviet Union could make any nuclear weapon the United States might make. It's futile for Washington to try to use the neutron weapon as a bargaining point at talks with the United States. Either the United States will not develop it: then the Soviet Union will not; or the United States will throw common sense to the winds and develop it. Then the Soviet Union will too. So who gains? Nobody. And who loses? Obviously both the Americans and the Soviet people. Both will have to shoulder more military spending and all other nations will lose too because the danger of war will grow. Haggling is out of place when it comes to disarmament. It's time to discard the practice of seeking unilateral advantages. There are some world problems that do not permit haggling: either we all win or we all lose. To cloud this simple truth the opponents of less world tension try to spread doubts in the minds of Americans about the Soviet Union's intentions. Every move this country makes to stop the arms race is construed as a plan to damage the interests of the United States. Whereas the truth is that the Soviet proposals represent the only policy that's advantageous to both the Soviet Union and the United States.

BREZHNEV'S PROPOSALS TO DOMINATE UN DISARMAMENT SESSION

LD131058Y Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 13 May 78 LD

["Hopes of the Whole World"--TASS Headline]

[Text] New York, May 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Vladimir Matyash reports:

Active preparations are under way at the United Nations organization for the coming U.N. General Assembly's special session on disarmament. At the U.N. circles it is noted that the session is bound to promote the holding of further negotiations on disarmament in the world scale, and particularly, convocation of a world conference on disarmament. The session is expected to justify the hopes of peoples for curbing the arms race, said Carlos Ortis de Rosas (Argentina), chairman of the Preparatory Committee for convocation of the special session. He expressed confidence that the session would become "a major step in the U.N. activities in the sphere of disarmament."

The dominant topic of discussion at the United Nations in the course of preparations for the session is a package of proposals on full termination of further quantitative and qualitative growth of armaments and troops of the states with a big military potential, which were made at the 18th Komsomol Congress by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The TASS correspondent has been told by an official U.N. representative that these concrete and constructive proposals "will help concentrate the work of the coming special session on questions of nuclear disarmament and attaining the goal of universal and complete disarmament under efficient international control."

The Soviet Union's topical proposals, advanced by Leonid Brezhnev, have been issued as an official document of the General Assembly and are riveting close attention to the international community.

A working document of the U.N. Secretariat, devoted to the special session on disarmament, which has been circulated here points out that "peace can be ensured only through realisation of measures in the sphere of disarmament, specifically nuclear disarmament which promote the accomplishment of the ultimate goal-universal and complete disarmament under efficient international control." The document also stresses that U.N. member countries broadly support the Soviet Union's advanced idea of convocation of a world conference on disarmament, bound to largely promote the restraining of the arms race and the deepening of the relaxation of international tension.

BRUSSELS EUROPEAN SECURITY MEETING APPROVES UN APPEAL

LD122024Y Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Brussels, May 12, TASS--The International Committee for European Security and Cooperation today approved of the appeal to the U.N. General Assembly's special session on disarmament.

Representatives of 14 international organizations and 20 European states stress in the document the need of supplementing political detente with measures leading to disarmament. The International Committee believes, the appeal says, that an immediate end to the arms race, elaboration of, even partial, disarmament measures, that would lead to complete and universal disarmament, should become the priority objective for all the states.

The committee pointed to the great significance the attainment of an agreement on reduction of troops and armaments in central Europe would have for the deepening of detente in Europe and in the whole world. The committee also stressed the need of attaining positive results at the current Soviet-American negotiations on disarmament.

The International Committee for Security and Cooperation in Europe has called upon the participants in the U.N. special session to work towards attainment of agreements on preventing an accidental outbreak of a nuclear war, on reduction of the strength of foreign troops, stationed outside the boundaries of national territories with a view of the subsequent closure of foreign military bases, on full and universal termination of nuclear weapon tests by all the states.

The committee believes, the appeal stresses, that consolidation of peace and detente would be promoted by all countries' renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons, termination of production and development of all types of nuclear weapons (atomic, hydrogen, neutron), destruction of their stockpiles, prohibition of the development and production of new types and systems of weapons of mass destruction.

In the committee's opinion, it is necessary that the U.N. member states should agree on prohibition of chemical weapons, reduction of military expenditures. They should exert efforts to see to it that the existing military-political blocs in Europe should not be widened and they should come over to their simultaneous and mutual disbandment, should create zones of peace, free from nuclear weapons.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD1416402 Moscow International Service in Russian 0730 GMT 14 May 78 LD

["International Observers Roundtable" with Askold Biryukov, Leonid Maksimov and Anatoliy Ovsyannikov--not further identified]

Brezhnev FRG Visit

[Text] [Anatoliy Ovsyannikov] Good day, comrades. We would like to commence our conversation today with an analysis of the main results of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's visit to the FRG. As emphasized in the document of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers, this visit has been an important step in advancing the cause of detente and in strengthening peace. The realization that peace is a supreme value of our times was confirmed and set down in a document.

Leonid Maksimovich, what may be singled out in the foreign commentaries on the results of Comrade Brezhnev's visit?

[Leonid Maksimov] These commentaries admit that the visit was truly an outstanding event of international life, of enormous significance not only for strengthening and developing Soviet-West German relations, but also for strengthening peace and security in Europe and for an important shift in the improvement of the political climate in general. It is noted that in the course of the visit, meetings and a dialog took place not only between the head of our state and party and the leaders of the FRG, but also between Comrade Brezhnev and various strata of the wide public of West Germany. These were quite effective contacts.

[Anatoliy Ovsyannikov] People abroad are noting the enormous range of questions under discussion during the visit; these included questions on the political, economic, cultural and scientific relations between both states as well as questions of a general European nature--disarmament, reduction of arms and armed forces and so on. Proof of the scope and extent of the talks is the list of documents adopted. These include a joint declaration, a communique on the visit and also an agreement on developing and deepening long-term cooperation in economies and industry. How is this constructive approach to finding a solution to international questions and questions of bilateral cooperation being commented on abroad?

[Maksimov] People abroad note that a completely characteristic phenomenon was both sides' constructive approach to finding a solution to the problems under discussion both in their mutual relations and in their joint approach to such issues as further developing the principles and provisions of the Helsinki final act--for example, a general and complete disarmament under effective international control; accord on further steps in disarmament and arms' limitation aimed at supplementing detente; the reduction of arms and armed forces in central Europe, and also their approach to the question of nuclear disarmament. I would also like to particularly note the fact that the world media were highlighting the special significance of the long-term nature of the mutual relations between the FRG and the USSR, the foundations of which were set down during this visit.

For example the fact that the agreement on developing and deepening long-term cooperation in economics and industry is based on the principles of the final act on the need for economic, industrial and technical cooperation in Europe, and in particular that it is envisioned for 25 years--a quarter of a century--indicates the firm conviction of both sides that all the remaining years of this century--almost a quarter of a century--and the beginning of the next century should develop in conditions of extensive bilateral economic cooperation. In this, one may see a guarantee of calm confidence and stability in European affairs in general. And, as the world press concedes, this is the best guarantee of peace and security in Europe on the part of two large European states. In his speech on FRG television, Comrade Brezhnev noted: When setting out for Bonn on this occasion, we saw it as our task, on the basis of the 1970 Moscow treaty and together with the leaders of the FRG, to determine for the years ahead the main directions of the further cooperation between our countries and also to outline paths for reciprocal action and for strengthening peace and international detente. To my mind, Leonid Ilich noted, much was achieved in this direction during the visit. And there are grounds for hoping that its results will impart greater stability and greater scope to bilateral relations.

[Anatoliy Ovsyannikov] Leonid Maksimovich, you observed that much attention is being devoted in the West to commentaries regarding the accords reached between the leaders of our countries on further developing bilateral cooperation.

[Leonid Maksimov] Quite correct.

[Anatoliy Ovsyannikov] And this particular aspect is being noted also not only in West Germany but also in a number of other countries in the capitalist world. In this connection, I would like to ask you, Askold Aleksandrovich, to dwell on some commentaries on this question in the Japanese press.

[Askold Biryukov] I could cite some words from NIHON KEIZAI, which reflects the mood of Japanese business circles. In its editorial, this paper writes: The long-term economic agreement, envisaged for 25 years, will represent firm links that join and strengthen the relations between both countries. NIHON KEIZAI observes that the FRG is one of the USSR's biggest trading partners among Western countries. Taking into account the present state of the West German economy, which is experiencing difficulties in connection with the world economic depression, the fall in business activities inside the country and an aggravation of the unemployment problems, an expansion of trade with the USSR is a big plus for the FRG.

[Maksimov] In this connection, I would like to stress particularly that the document of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers in fact notes that the expansion of trade, industrial and technical cooperation between the USSR and the FRG on the basis of the signed documents, will substantially strengthen the material basis of detente and contribute to the systematic, stable and mutually advantageous growth of neighborly relations for the good of the peoples and working peoples of both countries.

[Biryukov] I would like to add that this is not only for the good of both countries. The FRG and the USSR are not the only states in a position to plan their relations ahead for many years, but other countries in Europe as well.

UN Disarmament Session

[Ovsyannikov] In the course of the summit meeting in the FRG the danger of the arms' race, which poisons the international atmosphere and sows anxiety and alarm, was pointed out yet again. In its essence the arms race is senseless. It cannot be won but the destruction of mankind is possible. This was pointed out both during Comrade Brezhnev's visit to the FRG and during his recent speech in Vladivostok on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin. To end the arms race and achieve disarmament is the number one task. This is why world public attention is now focused on New York, on the forum that is to discuss this task--the United Nations General Assembly session on disarmament.

[Maksimov] The Soviet Union attaches much importance to the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament. In our view, the special session is called upon to provide an objective and balanced assessment of the present state of affairs in the question of disarmament, sum up the results that have been achieved and formulate the fundamental provisions or principles that would be at the basis of the talks and solutions on questions of restraining the arms race and disarmament. These principles should naturally be as universal as possible and of a long-term nature. In line with this, the Soviet Union is of the opinion that the special session could determine the general direction of efforts in ending the arms race and also the specific immediate tasks in this direction that would be included in the action program on disarmament.

Obviously it is necessary that the program itself be realistic and specific and that it be acceptable to all states. As such, the special session would provide a new impulse to the talks on the most urgent question of disarmament.

As is known, the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have submitted the following documents to the preparatory committee of the UN General Assembly's special session: a draft of the basic documents, a declaration on disarmament and an action program on disarmament. In the Soviet Union's opinion, the session should emphasize the need for serious efforts in nuclear disarmament above all. As is known, the Soviet Union has put forward a far-reaching proposal in this field, the implementation of which would contribute to a radical improvement in the international situation. This is the proposal made by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev on 2 November, 1977, on ending the production of nuclear weapons and gradually reducing stockpiles right up to the complete liquidation. The special session must not bypass as cardinal a problem as preventing the danger of a nuclear war. We consider it important that the session should strive to adopt measures directed at consolidating the policy of nuclear nonproliferation. The threat that the circle of nuclear states could be expanded is quite real.

In this connection, it is sufficient to cite the danger of such weapons falling into the hands of, say, Israel or South Africa. The session will also have much to say on the important question of banning the creation of new weapons and weapon systems of mass destruction. It is necessary that the session give great attention to the question of the neutron weapon. The Soviet Union has proposed to the Western states that they should come to an understanding on a mutual renunciation of the production of this weapon. In our opinion, the special session should give impetus to the negotiations that are already being conducted on disarmament on various levels--bilateral, regional, international--and accelerate the conclusion of appropriate treaties. For example, it would be of special importance to complete as quickly as possible the Soviet-U.S. talks on limitation of offensive strategic arms.

Everyone knows that the Soviet Union, for its part, is doing all it can for the success of this important undertaking. The session will undoubtedly also come out in favor of quickly completing the talks between the USSR, U.S. and Britain on full and universal banning of nuclear-weapons tests and creating the necessary conditions so that full agreement can be reached at those talks within a short space of time. The talks on banning the development, production and stockpiling of chemical weapons, and on destroying the existing stocks of these weapons, have been going on for an excessively long time. Efforts are needed to speed up the completion of a draft convention on this question. It would also be a good thing if the special session declared its support for an agreement to ban another dangerous weapon of mass destruction: the radiological [radiologicalicheskiy] weapon. Considerable work has already been done at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on drawing up a draft convention on this.

[Biryukov] The question of reducing conventional armaments and armed forces will evidently loom large at the meeting. It is important that the meeting also come out in favor of reducing the military budgets of the states as a measure to limit the arms race. This question--the question of reducing military expenditure--must be the subject of concrete and businesslike negotiations between the states, and a beginning must be made on systematic reduction. The special session of the General Assembly must support efforts to set up nuclear-free zones and peace zones in various regions. In particular, the session will discuss the question of a peace zone in the Indian Ocean. It would evidently be a useful step to agree on the withdrawal of ships and submarines from the Mediterranean Sea carrying nuclear weapons.

[Maksimov] Here I should like to draw attention to our own declaration on the Soviet Union's determination to join, in an appropriate form, the international treaty to ban nuclear weapons in Latin America.

[Ovsyannikov] Leonid Maksimovich, we have spoken about the great importance of the General Assembly session in New York, but the convening of a world disarmament conference will surely be even more important. It will be a forum that will enable us to move on from the general calls and recommendations that are being adopted at the General Assembly sessions to practical work on the coordination of measures in disarmament. The conference could take effective decisions having binding force for its participants. The question of the conference must be appropriately reflected in the final document of the session, and the success of that session could prepare conditions for convening a world disarmament conference--on the need for which there is agreement between states and for which there exist corresponding UN decisions.

Incidentally, the question of preparations for such a conference was also discussed during Comrade Brezhnev's visit to the FRG.

Sino-Japanese Relations

[Maksimov] Quite right. In connection with discussing matters concerning nuclear and conventional disarmament, the world public is paying more and more attention to the essentially provocative and subversive activity of the present Peking leaders in questions of disarmament. Attention is drawn to the fact that an accelerated militarization of the country is now taking place in China. There is a buildup of all types of weapons in China, including nuclear, and the world public is aware that all this is being done by the Chinese leaders in a situation where they have territorial claims against a number of their neighbors. One of the foreign policy principles of the Chinese leaders is the thesis of the inevitability of a new world war.

[Ovsyannikov] You have said that China has territorial demands, claims. And the events that took place off the Senkaku islands are still fresh in everyone's memory.

[Maksimov] I would like to remind you that that incident occurred just 1 month ago in a region close to the Japanese prefecture of Okinawa. The region was suddenly full of Chinese fishing vessels, with--as it turned out later--crews armed with automatic weapons instead of just fishing rods.

[Ovsyannikov] And machineguns.

[Maksimov] Yes, and large-caliber machineguns. Quite correct. They started getting in the way of some Japanese patrol boats in the area, and when they asked the Chinese to leave the coastal waters, the Chinese put out previously prepared notices saying this is Chinese territory. Analyzing the subsequent development of events in the region of the Senkaku islands, the Japanese press noted the obviously planned and premeditated character of this Chinese provocation. It was remarked in particular that more than 200 Chinese vessels registered at various Chinese ports couldn't have gathered in one place simultaneously without orders from above. The Chinese side--the newspaper JAPAN TIMES noted in this connection--is out to set a precedent for its hegemonistic claims.

[Biryukov] It's common knowledge that Peking has its eye on the territory of practically all the neighboring states without exception. This includes Japan.

Peking's provocation off Senkaku aroused great indignation in Japan. The papers saw the incident as a practical manifestation of Peking hegemonism. It should be mentioned that the Senkaku events were an embarassment to the advocates of Sino-Japanese rapprochement in Tokyo. They have long spoken, in unison with Peking, in favor of concluding a so-called peace and friendship treaty between China and Japan. At the same time, those events confirmed the apprehensions of the opponents of concluding the document proposed by Peking. One clause of it in particular--on joint opposition to hegemony--is clearly aimed at drawing Japan into an anti-Soviet political alliance. JAPAN TIMES wrote that the intrusion by the Chinese vessels could, in itself, be regarded as an entirely vivid illustration of the very hegemonism that China says should be prevented. At first Peking seemed to have taken note of this unambiguous negative reaction by Japanese public opinion. Peking hastened to describe the incident they themselves provoked in the region of Senkaku as accidental, but this version found no response in Japan or in other countries.

[Ovsyannikov] Askold Aleksandrovich, I remember what the London TIMES wrote about this. Can it be that the Chinese Government's right hand does not know what its left hand is doing? Chinese fishermen are not in the habit of staging political demonstrations--or, if they do, then only on order from above.

[Biryukov] I must say that this British paper got it pretty well right. The subsequent conduct of the Chinese only confirmed the nature of the so-called Chinese approach to relations between states. In Tokyo, PRC Ambassador Fu Hao met President of the House of Councillors Kenzo Kono, and took the Japanese prime minister to task for his passivity in the matter of concluding a treaty with China. He even expressed doubt as to whether the head of the Japanese Government really had any desire to sign that document. This outburst by the Peking emissary was described in the Japanese press as disgraceful, and seen in government circles as impudent interference in internal affairs.

[Ovsyannikov] And we have just learned of a new confirmation of that interference: the latest Chinese protest over a document under discussion in the Diet.

[Biryukov] Yes, indeed. The other day, PRC vice minister of foreign affairs Han Nien-lung sent for Shoji Sato, Japanese ambassador in Peking, and protested the Diet's discussion of a bill defining the procedure for implementing the Japanese-South Korean agreement on joint utilization of the continental shelf. The Peking representative went on to declare that the Chinese authorities do not recognize the agreement, and regard it as a new encroachment on Chinese sovereignty. Peking's protest was rejected by the Japanese foreign minister, and a senior official of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs indicated that Japan had no need to consult China about ratifying agreements with South Korea.

In short, Peking's provocations in the region of the Senkaku Islands, its attempts to pressure Japan into signing an anti-Soviet Sino-Japanese treaty, its open interference in the internal affairs of neighbouring Japan are leading to results that are directly opposite from those the organizers of all these acts were counting upon. At the same time they indicate clearly and in every way the cost of Peking's friendship and the kind of peace Peking expansionists have in mind.

Mondale's Southeast Asian Tour

[Ovsyannikov] We have spoken about China's militarist policy in the Far East and I would like to add that, unfortunately, the United States is also pursuing the same policy, which in no way helps to strengthen peace in this region. In this connection I would like to dWell on U.S. Vice President Mondale's tour to five countries of Southeast Asia and the Pacific, which has just ended.

[Maksimov] It is noteworthy that this trip coincided with the third anniversary of the fall of Saigon. Mondale did not mention this anniversary in his public statements, but he noted that despite passive participation in this region in the last 3 years--passive military participation, that is--the United States still considers that it should play a definite role in this region. Moreover, he reported that Washington is still prepared to play this role effectively. In practice, it looks like this: The United States will maintain its armed forces in the western Indian Ocean, now amounting to approximately 140,000 troops, Marines and Air Force personnel, Mondale said. In Thailand and Indonesia, the vice president officially promised that the United States would sell planes to each country to replace old ones--a squadron of F-5's to Thailand, a squadron of A-4's to Indonesia. In the Philippines, he spoke about considerably strengthening American bases there; in Canberra, the vice president reported that American-Australian naval exercises would be held in the Indian Ocean with the purpose of confirming the U.S. pledge to participate in Australia's defense.

U.S.-Japanese Relations

[Ovsyannikov] The United States is striving to raise Japan's military role in its strategic plans. This is borne out, in particular, by last week's Japanese-American summit talks in Washington. The land of the rising sun was represented by Prime Minister Fukuda and the United States by President Carter.

This is the second meeting of the heads of government of the two leading capitalist powers. Fukuda's first U.S. visit took place a little over a year ago, soon after both men took up their present posts.

I recall that at that time both sides were forced to admit that there were a number of serious differences separating them, particularly in trade and economic relations. The nearly 14 months that have passed since then have not only failed to settle these differences but, as the Washington POST testifies, have led American-Japanese relations to a critical phase.

It is well known that in recent years Japan has been conduting trade with itspartner across the ocean with a heavily increased balance in its favor. Last year, however, the positive balance of Japan's reached the huge sum of nearly $9 billion. Naturally, and the Tokyo MAINICHI notes this, the Japanese side wished to avoid discussion of this and certain other prickly bilateral issues, but the United States concentrated the talks on precisely this issue. They bluntly warned the Japanese that if they did not voluntarily cut down the mass deliveries of their goods to the American market and did not take measures to increase their purchases of American goods, economic sanctions would be made against them.

The administration's stand was widely supported by the U.S. mass media and by congressmen who reflected the interests of the appropriate U.S. monopolies.

[Maksimov] Yes, I believe that as a result of this pressure, Fukuda had to make certain concessions to the Americans. Among other things, he promised Carter that he would do everything he could to open up the Japanese markets to more foreign goods. He pledged to reduce steel exports to the U.S. by 10-20 percent; color television exports by 30 percent, and Japanese car exports.

[Biryukov] I would just like to point out that in reply, the Japanese prime minister made a number of serious claims against the U.S. He noted, in particular, that to a considerable extent the United States was responsible for the changing fortunes of Japanese-American trade. It had been unable to cope with inflation, the energy crisis and the fall in the dollar. This in turn led to an increase in the price of the Japanese yen, and thus weakened the competitiveness of Japanese goods. And now the American side found it had to justify itself and promise the Japanese that it would curb inflation, give Congress a series of bills to reduce the consequences of the energy crisis and put things right on the world currency market.

The assurances given by the American side on this matter were such, however, that MAINICHI found it possible to call them obscure.

[Ovsyannikov] One gets the impression that both sides, on the threshold of the July meeting of heads of states and governments of the advanced capitalist countries in Bonn, still tried not to aggravate the existing trade and economic problems in their relations. But the acuteness and deepness of these problems are still there.

[Biryukov] I would say, moreover, on the admission of Japanese observers, that the fact that Fukuda and Carter were unable to come to an agreement on these problems and on a mutual declaration on the importance of Japanese-American cooperation in overcoming the economic troubles in the capitalist world, puts a question mark on whether the Bonn meeting between the leaders of the Western countries will yield any results. But one ought to say that, in admitting the absence of any perceptive concrete results from the talks in Washington, observers in Tokyo are at the same time drawing attention to the convergence of the positions of the U.S. and Japan on intensifying their economic and military-political influence in the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia.

The Japanese-American talks emphasized the mutual interest in maintaining the American military presence in this region and the desire of both sides to give support to the anticommunist regimes in South Korea and the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian nations--so-called ASEAN group. As Shintaro Abe, the general secretary of the Japanese Cabinet of Ministers, said the other day, Japan's pledge to insure economic cooperation with ASEAN was confirmed at the talks in Washington. Japan also pledged to make efforts in defense proportionate to its national might.

[Maksimov] Observers drew attention to one other thing: Representatives of the U.S. administration came out with peculiar straightforwardness in support of the activity of the Japanese Government for the quickest possible conclusion of the so-called treaty of peace and friendship with Peking. The Japanese opposition parties are almost unanimous in their appraisal of the current talks. In their view, Prime Minister Fukuda has embarked on a path of further submission of the country's foreign policy to U.S. military strategic interests in Asia and agreed to an increase in Japan's already considerable burden in the Japanese-American military alliance.

[Ovsyannikov] And there we end today's talk, comrades. Thank you for your attention and all the best.

PONOMAREV READS BREZHNEV MESSAGE TO WIDF SESSION

LD150936Y Moscow TASS in English 0906 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--"The women of the world can be sure that the Soviet Union has done and will further do everything in its power to prevent a new world war, to end the arms race and to ensure peaceful life for all countries and for all peoples," wrote general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in his message of greetings to the session of the Council of the Women's International Democratic Federation uniting 126 national women's organisations in 110 countries.

The message was read out by alternate member of the Politburo of the CPSU CC, Secretary of the CPSU CC Boris Ponomarev.

The session, which opened in Moscow today, is to examine questions pertaining to the economic, social and political rights of women and preparations for the international year of the child (1979) and outline a programme of activity up to 1980.

Special attention is to be devoted to disarmament problems in connection with the forthcoming special session on disarmament of the U.N. General Assembly.

The struggle for delivering mankind from the threat of a nuclear-missle war is assuming great significance today in the activity of public forces of all trends. The arms race is becoming of a really global character, it has become an unprecedented danger in history, the session was told by Valentina Nikolayeva-Tereshkova, chairman of the Soviet Women's Committee.

Now this is felt by all peoples, she said. They no longer want to live on a power barrel, which has become so dangerous for the life of the whole mankind. And the Women's International Democratic Federation is trying to make its contribution to the resolution of the great historical task--that of preventing a new world war.

UNITED STATES

CARTER'S ROLE IN AIRCRAFT SALE DISPUTE WITH CONGRESS NOTED

LD131415Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1030 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington--Vitaliy Gan, TASS correspondent, reports: U.S. President James Carter has personally intervened in the argument that has erupted in Congress over the administration plan to sell a large number of combat planes to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. In connection with the Senate's decisive vote on Monday the President has sent a letter to every senator appealing for the approval of this deal, and also to Thomas O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, and the leader of the House Committee on International Relations.

In an attempt to demonstrate the "balanced nature" of its Near East policy, Washington, as is known, has decided to supply 90 of the latest F-15 and F-16 fighters to Israel, 60 F-15 planes to Saudi Arabia and 50 outdated F-5 fighters to Egypt. The government program has encountered fierce opposition from the pro-Israeli lobby, which has demanded an increase in the number of planes for Tel Aviv and a complete rejection of aircraft deliveries to both Arab countries. Under this pressure, the administration has conceded, promising Israel another 20 F-15 fighters. The Tel Aviv lobbyists, however, regard this concession as a sign that they might be able to achieve their original aim.

As a result a proposal was submitted to the Senate to reject the plan for aircraft deliveries to all three countries. The calculation is that if the proposal is approved, only Saudi Arabia and Egypt would not receive the promised aircraft. As far as Israel is concerned, no one doubts that Tel Aviv will receive all the military technology it is demanding. This is indicated not only by Washington's previous actions but also by the frequent official declarations of the White House concerning the "special relations" between the United States and Israel.

Meanwhile, the prospects of a refusal to approve the delivery of aircraft to Saudi Arabia and Egypt is seriously alarming the U.S. Government, which is counting on strengthening its influence in these countries and thereby guaranteeing American strategic and oil interests in the Near East.

To prevent a congressional refusal, President Carter has sent a letter to the legislators in which he again stresses the White House's desire "to preserve peace, stability and harmonious relations between the states of the Near East."

He argues that the deliveries of aircraft to Egypt will enable As-Sadat "to continue his efforts for peace," in other words, the course for a separate deal with the Israeli aggressors.

As far as Saudi Arabia is concerned, the President notes its role in restraining "radical neighbors" and its long-standing friendship with the United States.

In this connection, the President stresses, evidently looking over his shoulder at the pro-Israeli lobby, that the concern of the United States for the security of Israel "is full and unqualified."

Currently, no one is willing to judge the effectiveness of the President's appeal. Observers particularly note that in the opinion of a number of influential legislators, supplies of aircraft to the Near East will only lead to increased tension and will further complicate the search for a just and peaceful settlement.

CARTER, 'ARAFAT, BEGIN ASSESS U.S. ROLE IN MIDDLE EAST

LD141756Y Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 14, TASS--U.S. President James Carter confirmed his administration's intention to follow Middle East policy based on unqualified support for Israel's expansionist ambitions. In an interview published here he voiced the belief that the Middle East settlement will not include the creation of an independent Palestine state on the West Bank of the Jordan and a complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied Arab territories. A settlement, he stressed, must be largely based on the proposals of Israeli Prime Minister Begin.

These proposals, as is known, envisage a continuation of an Israeli presence on all occupied territories of Arab countries, reinforcing the network of paramilitary Israeli colonist settlements there, and substituting a "partial autonomy" to the residents of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Gaza sector, for the idea of an independent Palestine state, as approved by the majority of the international community, which would put them in vasselage to Tel Aviv.

Reiterating United States' approval for these brazen demands of the Israeli leaders, the U.S. President indicated that the crucial goal of the U.S. Middle East policy, is and will be to ensure Israel's "security".

Thus, he made it clear that in its aggressive course Tel Aviv may fully rely not only on the political support of the USA, but also on its military and economic aid, which is growing from year to year.

At the same time, President Carter stressed the U.S. interest in a resumption of the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks that have bogged down, offering American mediation, he named Washington as a possible venue for holding their next round.

Kuwait, May 14, TASS--Yasir 'Arafat, the chairman of the executive committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, who was on a visit here, leveled sharp criticism at the American approach to a solution of Middle East problems. The U.S., he told a big rally in the Kuwaiti capital, in collusion with Israel seeks to eliminate the Palestine revolution and establish American-Zionist domination over the Arab world. Their plans, however, are doomed to failure. "If Carter says 'no' to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, to the Palestine people and a Palestine state," Yasir 'Arafat stressed, "we say our resolute 'no' to the United States."

Beirut, May 14, TASS--Israeli Prime Minister Begin once again appealed to Egyptian President as-Sadat to "revive the spirit of Jerusalem and Ismailia" and sit down at the negotiating table with the Israeli Government. Speaking to Zionist figures from the U.S. and Western Europe in Jerusalem, he ruled out any possibility of a change in the Israeli position regarding the terms of the separate deal being prepared with Egypt. Nothing, Begin said, will compel Israel to sign an agreement in which it sees a threat to its security. Explaining his position, the head of the Israeli Government said that the return of Israeli troops to borders that existed before the 1967 aggression against Egypt, Syria and Jordan, is out of the question.

Begin's statement is assessed in local political circles as a new Israeli demonstration of the intention to carry on the separate dialogue with Egypt from positions of strength only. Seeing the growing isolation of Egypt in the Arab world and the weakening of Sadat's regime inside the country, Tel Aviv openly demands additional fundamental concessions from the Egyptian president that would allow Israel to conclude a separate peace on terms beneficial to itself.

CIA GROUP INVESTIGATES STRENGTHENED U.S. ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD140004Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Unattributed Commentary from "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] U.S. imperialism never misses any opportunity to consolidate its positions in the Middle East and to intensify its support for the aggressive policy of Israel. This is indicated once again by a report published on Friday by the Beirut AS-SAFIR's Washington correspondent. The paper wrote about the recent visit to Israel and a number of Arab countries by a CIA delegation.

At the end of the tour, CIA proposals concerning the strengthening of the U.S. presence in the Middle East were sent to a special committee of the U.S. Congress. According to the CIA, such a presence must be effective to protect U.S. interests in the region; it must also consolidate Israel's positions and encourage Arab states to join the separate talks between Egypt and Israel. The basis of this presence, AS-SAFIR said, will be formed by a network of U.S. military bases, including an espionage branch. In the CIA's opinions such a network must include the U.S. military air bases in the Sinai, the Haifa naval base, and the radar early warning system extending from the Sinai desert to the Golan Heights. A total of 10,000 U.S. servicemen are expected to be sent to these bases, and efforts are expected to be made to extend the U.S. military presence to Jordan and Lebanon.

According to AS-SAFIR, this new CIA scheme against the Arab national liberation movement has already begun. For example, U.S. spy planes have used the Assyun airport in the Sinai on their flights over the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa region and the Indian Ocean for many months. Political activity is effectively pursued in this respect, also.

The CIA plans have been discussed during Begin and Dayan's visit to Washington, and during the visit of the U.S. secretary of the Air Force to Saudi Arabia. In this respect, and referring to official U.S. sources, AS-SAFIR emphasized that the United States now has a clear idea about the possibility of completely carrying out this plan.

CARTER'S SPOKANE SPEECH ON AFRICA DEMAGOGUERY, SLANDER

LD150909Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 May 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[IZVESTIYA political observer V. Matveyev article: "A Shadow on a Clear Day: On a Speech by the U.S. President"]

[Text] The African Continent does not disregard the significant changes taking place in the social and political complexion of the world that denote the destruction of the old, disintegrating orders and the establishment of new ones. This process is not, of course, taking place without a bitter struggle both within countries and in the international arena. The world's attention is particularly drawn to the situation in southern Africa, where the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia, in the face of intensifying and expanding national liberation battles, are resorting to increasingly cruel repressions and performing flagrant new acts of armed aggression against neighboring African countries. [paragraph continues]

The latest instance is the massive attack by the South African military clique on southern regions of Angola, which led to heavy losses among the civilian population.

At a time when the overwhelming majority of UN members have decisively condemned this piratical act and have demanded immediate sanctions against the presumptuous racists, the U.S. President could find nothing better to do than to make a speech in Spokane, Washington on 5 May slanderously attacking the Soviet Union in connection with the present situation on the African Continent. He went so far as to say that "racial prejudices" exist in the USSR.

This question is appropriate: Wasn't J. Carter trying to distract the American public's attention from the provocative actions of the South African Government by concealing them behind a dense smokescreen?

The question is all the more reasonable in that a year ago, in April 1977, the same high-ranking speaker flattered the racist regime in Pretoria, asserting that "the South African Government represents to a significant extent a stabilizing factor in the southern part of the African Continent and has an important part to play in the peaceful settlement of the problems of Rhodesia and Namibia." It is true that the U.S. President later permitted himself to make some critical observations on the policy of the South African racist regime, depicting his administration, in the eyes of African countries and peoples, as a supporter of equality and freedom everywhere, including in southern Africa.

But, as the saying goes, fine words butter no parsnips. The peoples whom the American President has been trying hard to address recently judge not by words but by deeds. What are the deeds of the United States in Africa? While the master of the White House, both during his recent tour of a number of African countries and on other occasions, has scattered fine phrases of humanity, justice and equality, his closest colleagues in Washington have plainly discussed U.S. aims in Africa. This, for instance, is what Defense Secretary Harold Brown said in a message to Congress in March 1977--that is, during J. Carter's presidence--"The vast Continent of Africa is worthy of attention not only because of its strategically important geographical location but also because of its increasing value as a source of raw materials.... Maintaining access to African raw materials is assuming increasing importance for the United States.... In order to fulfill these tasks it is desirable for U.S. Armed Forces to have the right of access to certain installations and the right to call at ports."

Of course, in the speech mentioned above, the U.S. President was wary of using such categories concerning American policy in Africa. He tried to represent his government as an ardent champion of the destinies of African countries and peoples. But what is the value of these statements when the same speaker tries again and again to adopt the stance of arbiter and mentor in relation to the African peoples, addressing "warnings" to them against the "communist and atheist state"--i.e., the Soviet Union!

The fact that J. Carter likes the system in the United States is not surprising. What is surprising is something else: How, disregarding elementary ethics and all known facts about reality in the United States, he does not hesitate to impose the American way of life on African countries and peoples as a "model." It turns out that in the United States "they have learned how whites and blacks must live side by side." It also turns out that "this U.S. approach is rated very highly in Africa." Obviously, in high Washington circles, they see nothing dishonorable in trying to speak on behalf of others--in this case, on behalf of the African peoples.

But let us look at what is being written and said in the African countries, and in those African countries with which the United States is seeking to maintain close ties. Thus, the Kenyan newspaper the STANDARD wrote recently that President J. Carter, while expressing concern at the presence of Cubans in Africa, uttered not a word about the 1,500 U.S. mercenaries operating on Smith's side. Nor did he mention the fact that U.S. troops are scattered throughout the world--in Western Europe, Turkey, Taiwan, South Korea, Panama and so forth.

Such are the facts. What does Washington set against them? Demogoguery and slander. Demagoguery about the "racial harmony" allegedly attained in the United States. Slander against the USSR and the other socialist countries. Both are in a weak position and collapse like a wretched house of cards.

Who will believe that racial discrimination and oppression in the United States are already resolved and that harmony has been established in this sphere? Incidentally, during his election campaign, J. Carter spoke frequently on this subject, seeking to win the votes of millions of black Americans. But once the candidate was in the White House, the promises he made remained only promises. Many U.S. organizations that support civil rights and oppose racism are now voicing their unconcealed disillusionment at the lack of any positive advance in this field. The U.S. President's lengthy State of the Union message to Congress on 19 January this year contained only one brief and unenlightening paragraph on this issue--a burning one for millions of Americans.

Last October, J. Rhodes, leader of the Republicans in the House of Representatives, pointed out: "Over 40 percent of young blacks aged 16 to 24 cannot find work. This is a fuse which could blow up society."

This is "racial harmony" in the United States: the priest Ben Chavis can be sentenced to 34 years imprisonment together with his comrades struggling against racial oppression while Lt William Calley is free after confessing to the murder of at least 22 Vietnamese women and children and, incidentally, receiving moral support from the then governor of Georgia, James Carter.

Racial prejudices... the U.S. President talks about them, alluding to other countries and to the USSR. What blasphemy! The friendship of the peoples of the USSR has been tested by time. The examples of its durability and indestructibility are innumerable. It has dashed the hopes of fascist invaders and of world imperialism of resurrecting internecine wars and wrecking the multinational socialist state. In Soviet society internationalism has been transformed from the ideal of a handful of communists into the profound conviction and norm of the life of millions and millions of Soviet people of all nations and nationalities.

The U.S. President is trying to present the United States as some sort of "model" for resolving the nationalities question and to cast a shadow on the USSR. This, which can only be called a double standard in his approach, can attest only to one thing: Evidently things are not going too well for countries like the United States on continents where not so long ago they felt themselves to be the full masters.

Those times have passed and will never return--however much those who yearn for those times may bemoan the fact and agitate.

STOCKWELL BOOK ON CIA OPERATIONS IN ANGOLA EXAMINED

LD122338Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2134 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] It has been officially announced in Luanda that more than 1,000 people have been killed or wounded as a result of South African military aggression against the People's Republic of Angola. The United States, which condemned the invasion of Angola by the Republic of South Afri[illegible] [RSA], is actually an ally of the racist aggressors. This is indicated by the documents seized by the Angolan liberation armed forces.

The CIA has been cultivating, in cooperation with the Pretoria Army's secret service; plans to destroy the legitimate MPLA-Labor Party Government and create a puppet, the so-called Black Republic of Angola, in southern Angola. The CIA is hoping to weaken the government of Agosthino Neto, kindle an Angolan civil war, and throttle the Angolan revolution. The CIA is assisting the separatist FNLA and UNITA groups and is recruiting mercenaries for actions in Angola. Mercenaries participated with South African punitive expeditioners in the bloody violence against the peaceful inhabitants of Cassinga, which was recently subjected to an outrageous attack.

Further evidence of the CIA's base activities in Angola is provided in the recently published book, In Search of Enemies. Its author, John Stockwell, a former member of the CIA and leader of the special CIA Angolan group, confirms that CIA leaders organized and financed the international recruitment campaign of mercenaries who were to fight against People's Angola.

According to Stockwell, the CIA closely cooperates with the South African racists in subversive activities. The RSA, Stockwell declares, was intensifying its interference in Angola along with the United States. However, the United States denies its participation in the aggressive actions in Angola and distorts the events in Angola. A deliberately false propaganda campaign is being waged on the supposed intrigues of the socialist countries in Africa. Falsehoods on this theme, according to former CIA employee Stockwell, are being created and exaggerated to distract the public's attention from U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the independent countries of the African Continent, and to disguise the alliance with the racist regimes. The same aim is served by the condemnation of the aggression of the RSA against Angola by the U.S. State Department--but the facts expose the hypocritical and unseemly position of Washington.

CHEAP LABOR U.S. MONOPOLIES' PRIMARY AFRICAN INTEREST

LD121316Y Moscow TASS in English 1055 GMT 12 May 78 LD

["U.S. Monopolies Strengthen Contacts with South African Racists"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, May 12, TASS--Contrary to the demands of the progressive U.S. and world public, U.S. monopolies do not curtail but on the contrary strengthen trade and economic contacts with the racist regime of apartheid in the Republic of South Africa. At present about 350 big U.S. companies actively operate in the Republic of South Africa. Among them are such big business giants as the Ford Motor, the General Motors, the Mobil Oil, the General Electric and the Caltex and others. They supply the Pretoria racists with radio electronic equipment and military equipment, oil and chemical-industry products.

That the U.S. companies do not think of breaking off with Pretoria is evidenced by the frank prouncement by an official spokesman of the General Motors in an interview with a correspondent of New York TIMES newspaper. He said the company has done business with Republic of South Africa for more than fifty years now and is planning to remain there for a very long time. The prouncements are fully backed by deeds. The General Motors annually supplies the Republic of South Africa with automobiles and trucks to the tune of over 200 million dollars.

U.S. banks play an active role in financing the trade between U.S. monopolies and Pretoria, as well as in ensuring financial support to the Republic of South Africa. Last year alone, the biggest of the banks, including the Chase Manhattan, the Hanover Manufacturers' Trust, the Citibank and a number of others granted at least 2.2 billion dollars as credits and loans to the racist regime. According to the press, U.S. bankers give South African companies and government organizations one third of all financial means that come to the Republic of South Africa from capitalist countries. The Citibank alone recently granted a loan of 300 million dollars to the Vorster regime.

U.S. monopolies are attracted to the Republic of South Africa first of all by the cheap labour of rightless African population as well as by the country's rich raw-material resources. The U.S. economy in many respects depends on the deliveries of South African strategic raw materials such as chrome, manganese and vanadium. The magazine NATION points out that access to these strategic minerals is obviously the key factor explaining official Washington's unwillingness to apply economic sanctions against South Africa.

MONDALE CANBERRA TALKS STRESS MILITARY MATTERS

LD121451Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 78 P 5 LD

[Correspondent O. Skalkin dispatch: "A Military Accent"]

[Text] Sydney, 9 May--On the final stage of his foreign tour, U.S. Vice President W. Mondale made a stop in Australia. The talks with Australian leaders in Canberra took place with an ostentatious stress on military questions.

"Joint U.S.-Australian maneuvers in the Indian Ocean have been planned," the Sydney MORNING HERALD writes today. The participants in the Canberra talks reached agreement on holding joint exercises in the Indian Ocean in the context of the tripartite ANZUS bloc. U.S. Vice President Mondale and Australian Prime Minister Fraser delivered a report on the forthcoming maneuvers at a press conference.

The Canberra talks confirmed that their participants are counting on the continued expansion of military preparations in Southeast Asia.

New Pacific Alliance Seen

LD132236Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1500 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] The United States Vice Presidnet, Walter Mondale, has completed a tour of Southeast Asia and the Pacific area which took him to the Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, as well as Australia and New Zealand. This tour, writes our observer Vladimir Korolev, was undertaken for the purpose of strengthening Washington's military and political positions in Asia which have been considerably weakened following the United States defeat in Indochina.

Washington no longer speaks of an American withdrawal from Asia, as it did 3 years ago. On the contrary, no secret is made in Washington that the United States intends to remain with all its blocs and bases, and, we could add, to dictate its wishes to the Asian countries. The highlights of this policy were spelled out fairly frankly by the American defense secretary, Harold Brown, in a recent speech in Los Angeles. According to him, the cornerstone of United States policy in Asia is the maintenance of a continued military presence in the area. He stressed that America would strengthen its forces in the area and in the next 5 years deploy several of the newest weapons systems.

The United States is increasingly drawing Japan and South Korea into its military preparations in Asia. Japan's militarization has assumed unprecedented proportions. There is talk about Japan getting American nuclear weapons. Meanwhile, Tokyo maintains that Japan has the right to produce its own nuclear weapons. Seoul, too, is out to acquire nuclear weapons. Both Tokyo and Seoul are seen as Washington's allies in the attempt to impose American domination (?on Asia). Much the same role is assigned to ASEAN. Washington hopes that this association, which includes Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and the Philippines, will replace the defunct SEATO bloc, and, together with ANZUS and CENTO, will become a United States bulwark in Asia. Walter Mondale's tour was designed to promote these aims.

Washington is more and more often talking of Peking as another partner and virtually an ally it can rely on. The Chinese leadership favors a continued and even stronger American military presence in Asia. The American magazine NEWSWEEK (?last week) reported that before building its naval base on Diego Garcia Island in the Indian Ocean the United States ensured itself of Peking's tacit consent, and the well-informed Washington POST said that Peking had no objection to the presence of American troops in South Korea.

When speaking of the latest tour of the American vice president, mention should be made of the attempts to put pressure on the Philippines, to get it to give up the intention of assuming control over American war bases on its territory, Clark Field and Subic Bay, which are the biggest in Asia. The final chord in Walter Mondale's Asian tour was struck when it was announced that the United States and Australia propose to hold joint military exercises in the Indian Ocean. It need hardly be said that all these actions only aggravate the situation in such a large area as Asia.

SENATE'S DECISION TO MAINTAIN TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO NOTED

LD121843Y Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 12, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports: The Senate Foreign Relations Committee has turned down the U.S. administration's proposal to lift the embargo on American arms deliveries to Turkey. By a majority of votes the committee declared against the allocation of 235 million dollars to Turkey in the next fiscal year within the framework of the foreign military aid programme.

The U.S. Congress introduced an embargo on military deliveries to Turkey in February 1975 in connection with the events in Cyprus, which were directly connected with Washington's policy which has long been nurturing plans of drawing Cyprus into the sphere of the aggressive NATO bloc.

Preventing a just settlement in Cyprus, the United States spurred the reactionary regime of "black colonels" in Greece to forcible accession of the island to that country. A state coup d'etat attempt, inspired three years ago by the former military regime in Athens, led to the landing of Turkish troops on the island and aggravated to the limit the relations between Greece and Turkey.

Turkey was strongly irritated by the embargo on arms deliveries. It closed American bases on its territory in retaliation. The cause of a particular concern in Washington have lately been Turkey's attempts to carry out a more independent foreign policy. Statements made by Turkish leaders that the NATO membership cannot ensure security to the Turkish people.

In these conditions the U.S. Government decided to resume arms deliveries to Turkey, but encountered resistance of the Congress. The decision, taken by the Senate committee, is regarded by the local political circles as a serious defeat of Washington's strategy in [the] Eastern Mediterranean and its policy of balancing between two NATO allies--Greece and Turkey. The newspaper New York TIMES points out that it can have serious consequences for American relations with Turkey.

HOUSE FOREIGN AID HEARINGS DETAIL FUNDS TO ISRAEL, EGYPT

LD141018Y Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 14, TASS--Hearings are continuing in the U.S. House of Representatives on the question of foreign aid appropriations in the fiscal year of 1979.

As always, the lion's share of the appropriations will go to Israel, which is to receive 785 million dollars, as well as to the Government of A. as-Sadat. Egypt is to receive 750 million dollars as an encouragement of its pro-American line.

At the same time, the House of Representatives voted for a ban on any direct or indirect economic aid to such countries as Vietnam and Cuba.

Roughly 3.7 billion dollars are expected to be appropriated for foreign aid, which the official Washington believes to be one of the most important means of bringing pressure to bear on other countries.

HOUSE COMMITTEE PLANS MILITARY BUILDUP IN WESTERN EUROPE

LD121634Y Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 12, TASS--The House Armed Services Committee has approved the appropriation of more than 4,000 million dollars for the expansion and modernisation of the American military bases both in the United States and abroad. A significant part of these allocations is intended for the U.S. military bases in Western Europe.

The decision to this effect was taken within the framework of an overall build-up of American military might in Western Europe. Thus, American ground troops in West Germany will be increased by the end of the current year from 189,000 to 197,000 men. They will be provided additionally with 5,000 tanks and 24,000 anti-tank guided missiles. The U.S. Air Force plans to deploy in Western Europe in the next few years about 2,000 modern A-10, F-15 and F-16 fighter planes additionally. In this connection construction of new landing strips is envisaged by the Air Force programme. The American Navy will also strengthen its West European bases.

The U.S. military buildup in Europe is under way to the accompaniment of a boisterous propaganda campaign on "a Soviet menace". But it is well-known that for a number of years now the Soviet Union has not been building up its troops in central Europe, i.e., in the area now the subject of negotiations in Vienna.

Moreover, the USSR and other Warsaw treaty member countries repeatedly proposed to the Western side mutual renunciation of the buildup of the troops and armaments. But, unfortunately, the Western countries have not so far accepted this proposal, and the U.S. practical actions go in a reverse direction. Yet another testimony of this is the decision taken by the House Armed Services Committee.

U.S. DEFENSE SECRETARY TO VISIT EUROPE, URGE NATO FACELIFT

LD131642Y Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 13 May 78 LD

["Pentagon's Plans"--TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, May 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports:

It has been announced here that the U.S. secretary of defence, Harold Brown, will go to Western Europe next week. In the course of his seven-day trip, the chief of the Pentagon will attend the session of the NATO defence planning committee in Brussels, visit the FRG and make "an unofficial stop-over" in Paris for negotiations with French officials.

Brown's trip, commentators believe, is called upon to demonstrate once again the priority attention paid by the present American leadership to consolidation of the North American alliance. The U.S. Government is known to have drawn up a sweeping plan of the build-up of American troops in Western Europe.

By the end of the current year the strength of the U.S. ground troops in West Germany is planned to be brought up to 197,000 men. 5,000 tanks, 24,000 anti-tank guided missiles will be additionally airlifted there. In the next few years, the United States intends to deploy in Western Europe about 2,000 most up-to-date fighter planes. Air and naval bases of the United States in that area are to be modernized.

The aim of Harold Brown's trip, local political circles point out, is to attract West European countries to Washington's efforts to strengthen the NATO's might. The United States insists on a rise in military expenditures, specifically, financial contributions of the members of the organization for the needs of the military bloc, and this is being opposed by a number of West European states.

BERGLAND MEETS WITH LYASHKO, DEPARTS KIEV

AU121935Y Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 12 May 78 AU

[Text] Bergland, U.S. secretary of agriculture, spent 2 days in Kiev. He was received in the Ukrainian Council of Ministers and spoke to Lyashko, Ukrainian CP Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the Ukrainian Council of Ministers. Bergland visited the Mironovka Scientific Research Institute for wheat selection and seed farming and a number of farms.

He was accompanied on the tour by Ukrainian Ministers Kolomiyets and Khorunzhiy.

During the meetings and conversations, the U.S. secretary of agriculture pointed out that he was highly impressed by Soviet agriculture and with its unlimited prospects for further development. He highly assessed Soviet-American cooperation in this field. Bergland inspected the "Agriculture in the United States of America" exhibit at the exhibition of Ukrainian national economic achievements.

Today the U.S. secretary of agriculture, who is in the Soviet Union on a visit, left by a plane for Tselinograd.

U.S. 'COMPENSATES' S. KOREA FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL

LD1215447Y Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 12, TASS--The Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday approved a bill providing for the transfer of a 800 million dollar worth of military equipment to South Korea, gratis, as "compensation" for the planned withdrawal of a certain part of the American troops from South Korea.

At the same time, according to the press, the Pentagon in unison with representatives of the U.S. military industry has been taking efforts, without making them public, to start the production of tanks in South Korea itself. A number of American firms, including Chrysler, National Water Lift will provide the necessary technology for the construction of a tank manufacturing plant near Seoul.

All this shows that the United States has started practical realisation of plans of re-armament and re-equipment of the Seoul Armed Forces under the pretext of the planned withdrawal of the American ground troops in the next five years.

Somewhat earlier, the Senate Armed Services Committee practically disavowed the promises made by the U.S. administration to withdraw the contingents of American ground troops from South Korea. The committee's decision was that the strength of the U.S. ground forces, permanently deployed in South Korea, should not be below 26,000 officers and men. There are now 32,000 officers and men in South Korea. The point in question is thus only a slight reduction, and over a period of several years. The broadly-advertised "troop withdrawal" is no more than a propaganda gesture. And under the cover of such declarations the Pentagon is creating in the south of the Korean Peninsula a powerful military machine which it regards as a stronghold in that region.

Washington dwells much on the danger of the arms race, on the striving for relaxation of tension. The Pentagon's provision of arms for the Seoul regime, the intensified military presence of the United States in the area of the Far East run counter to these statements.

'UNRESTRAINED' U.S. ARMS RACE RESULTS IN HUGE PROFITS

LD1314407Y Moscow TASS in English 1416 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 13, TASS--TASS correspondent Igor Makurin reports. The unrestrained arms race continuing in the United States is a source of enormous profits for the arms manufacturers. According to the NEWSDAY newspaper, last year alone 100 major U.S. corporations earned 34.1 billion dollars on military orders. A leading place among the arms suppliers to the Pentagon, the newspaper notes, is held by aircraft companies, whose profits are considerably bigger than those of other "death merchants."

In the lead there is the McDonnell Douglas corporation, which secured in 1977 orders from the administration worth more than two and a half billion dollars.

A little behind it is the Grumman Corporation, whose net profit grew last year by 38 percent compared with 1976. The sum total of orders received from the Pentagon by it is 1.4 billion dollars.

According to chairman of the board of directors of the concern Biurita, a considerable growth of profits was ensured in the first place due to new lucrative orders of the Navy for the manufacture of 80 F-14 jet fighters for sale to Iran.

More than 180 million dollars in net profit went to another aircraft manufacturing plant, Boeing, for which, as its bosses said, last year was the most profitable during the last five years.

A lump sum went to the Fairchild Industries corporation, which has become one of the main suppliers of modern weapons to the U.S. Defence Department. Late in 1977, the company outdid many of its rivals in a cut-throat competition and secured contracts for the manufacture this year of 144 A-10 jet fighters worth a total of 393.6 million dollars. Under the terms of the contract, the corporation is to supply 733 of such fighters by late 1982.

PLIGHT OF CHICANOS IN UNITED STATES OUTLINED

LD150932Y Moscow TASS in English 2000 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Washington, May 14, TASS--TASS correspondent Mikhail Beglov reports: While in words pledging loyalty to the "defense of human rights," Washington in fact deliberately ignores the extreme poverty of millions of Americans originating from Latin America, called here "Chicano." They are victims of most brutal discrimination in practically all walks of life.

Unemployment among the Chicanos is now above 10 per cent--nearly double the average unemployment level for the country. These people are denied opportunities to study and half of them have not completed secondary education. Participation in the social and political life of the country is something these U.S. citizens of Latin American origin can dream about. Thus, while making up nearly 7 per cent of the U.S. population these Spanish-speaking Americans have no representative in the Senate.

The most arduous, "dirty" jobs, as well as seasonal labour on the plantations is the plight reserved for the Chicanos in American society.

A meeting of U.S. President James Carter the other day with a group of congressmen was devoted to the problem of extreme poverty of Chicano Americans. It ended however, practically without results.

While allocating huge assets for military needs, official Washington cannot find money to finance programmes that would help to at least somewhat relieve the plight of the Chicanos. They keenly need special programmes in the sphere of education, medical services and many others.

However, the government, Congressman E. Roybal said, is doing nothing to improve the deprived status of 15 million Americans, who come from Latin American countries.

CHINA

TASS STATEMENT EXPRESSES REGRET AT PRC BORDER VIOLATION

LD121855Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1835 GMT 12 May 78 LD

["TASS Statement"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 12 May--On 11 May this year NCNA transmitted a report about a border incident which occurred on the Ussuri River near the Krestovskiye Islands. It is claimed in this report that the Soviet side made "a military provocation" on the Chinese-Soviet border "with the participation of a helicopter and military boats." It is alleged that the Soviet servicemen opened fire and wounded some Chinese citizens.

In effect this is what happened:

On the night 8-9 May 1978, while searching for a dangerous armed criminal, a group of Soviet border seamen, mistaking the Chinese side of the river for the Soviet Krestovskiye Islands, landed and traveled a short distance into Chinese territory. The Soviet servicemen took no action against the Chinese citizens, and having discovered that they had unintentionally entered Chinese territory, left without delay.

Regret has been expressed to the Chinese side over what happened.

ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU ARRIVES IN PEKING 15 MAY

LD151012Y Moscow TASS in English 1002 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Peking, May 15, TASS--President of the Socialist Republic of Romania, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party Nicolae Ceausescu has arrived for an "official friendly visit" here today.

HUA KUO-FENG'S SUPPORT OF KOREA'S REUNIFICATION EXAMINED

LD140021Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] China's premier, Hua Kuo-feng, has made his first trip abroad. He visited the Korean People's Democratic Republic, where he supported the efforts made by the government for the country's reunification and the withdrawal of American troops from South Korea. Nevertheless, those statement do not alarm Washington in the least. The New York TIMES writes that Peking spokesmen have on many occasions assured American diplomats that the Chinese leaders consider the presence of American troops in South Korea to be a blessing and a factor of stability in that part of the world. Peking's actual stand on this issue encourages the United States to keep over 40,000 American servicemen in the south of Korea. Just now, the United States is speedily stepping up the fighting capacity of the Seoul Air Force.

JAPAN-ROK PACT ON CONTINENTAL SHELF DEVELOPMENT ANGERS PRC

LD111620Y Moscow TASS in English 1557 GMT 11 May 78 LD

[Text] Peking, May 11, TASS--As the HSINHUA agency reports, Deputy Foreign Minister of the PRC Han Nien-lung made a resolute protest to Japan's ambassador in China, Shiji Sato, in connection with the fact that the Japanese Government submitted to parliament for voting "the act on special measures for implementation of the Japanese-South Korean agreement on the joint development of the continental shelf". The deputy minister stressed that the PRC regards this as "a new encroachment on China's sovereignty". As Han Nien-lung said, the Chinese Government made twice similar statements about the Japanese-South Korean agreement.

Tokyo, May 11, TASS--In the opinion of Japan's Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda, the Japanese-South Korean agreement on the joint development of the continental shelf is not an encroachment of China's sovereignty, the Japanese agency KYODO TSUSHIN reported. As a high placed official of the Japanese Foreign Ministry said, Japan has no need to consult with China about the implementation of this agreement with South Korea. He said Japan's position on this question will remain unchanged no matter what China's attitude is.

CYL'S REEMERGENCE DUE TO PRC LEADERS' HEGEMONIST PLANS

LD172114Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1216 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Youth With a Tragic Fate"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow--Mikhail Yakovlev, TASS political observer, writes: A report of the CCP Central Committee's decision to convene the 10th Congress of the Communist Union of Chinese Youth (CUCY) [CYL] on 10 October has been published in Peking. It will take place following a 12-year period of inactivity. Nothing has been heard of the organization since the time of the "Cultural Revolution." According to the report, the congress will take place "under the banner of Mao Tse-tung's ideas" and will subject to criticism "the subversive activities of the 'gang of four' in the youth movement."

Changes will be made in the CUCY Charter, and the leadership of the union will be elected. The question comes to mind: Why is it that the CCP Central Committee and not the leading organs of the komsomol adopts the decision to convene the CUCY Congress? If for no other reason, it is because there are no leading organs in China at present.

As soon as the notorious "Cultural Revolution" began, the CUCY Central Committee and local komsomol organizations were fiercely attacked by Mao Tse-tung and his supporters. They were accused of "revisionism," of conducting the "black line" and soon were, quite simply, dissolved.

The Maoists labeled the great majority of CUCY Central Committee members as "bandits," and "antiparty and antisocialist elements." They were subjected to repressions and sent to labor camps for "reeducation." The signboard on the CUCY Central Committee building was removed and the main entrance was blocked by a portrait of Mao Tse-tung. All printing organs of the Chinese komsomol were closed--the paper CHINA YOUTH, the magazine CHINA YOUTH and also the newspaper of the Chinese Pioneers CHUNGKUO SHAO NIEN PAO. The place of the dissolved komsomol organizations was taken by the Red Guard paramilitary detachments. The CUCY's material was also transferred to them.

The word "komsomol" itself disappeared from the vocabulary for a long time. It was forgotten as though youth organizations had never existed in China. Suddenly, it has reappeared on the pages of the Peking press. People are behaving as though the CUCY had never disappeared. Furthermore, in spite of well known facts, the authors of certain articles try to give the impression that the Chinese kimsomol took an active part in the "Cultural Revolution," i.e., it destroyed itself.

Actually, the case was somewhat different. The hordes of Maoist Red Guards that dispersed the CUCY were just toys in the hands of the country's leadership at that time.

As soon as they performed the program-makers' mission and were physically removed from the scene, particularly,certain opponents of this leadership, Mao Tse-tung ejected them from the political arena as unnecessary and harmful trash. After 1968, most komsomol leaders were banished to remote and uninhabited regions or were enrolled in militarized construction units where they were treated in an appropriate manner.

At the beginning of the 1970's, displeasure with the policies of Mao Tse-tung noticeably intensified, including among young people. The youth became increasingly aware that they had been cruelly deceived. At the same time, Mao and his entourage still needed the young people, considering them as one of the trump cards in the struggle for power that had been unleashed in the higher echelons. All of this compelled Mao Tse-tung and his "gang of four" to begin a gradual resumption of the work of komsomol organizations, having entirely placed this work in the service of their interests. In 1973-1974, CUCY cells were again established in the country at enterprises and komsomol committees at city and provincial level.

It was then that the "forthcoming" 10th CUCY Congress was announced for the first time. However, this congress has not as yet been held.

At present, judging by Chinese press reports, the existing komsomol organizations will encounter yet another purge. On 4 May PEOPLE'S DAILY wrote that "in those provinces, centrally controlled towns, and autonomous regions where conditions are suitable, local conferences of the CUCY are being convened at which a reorganization and elections of delegates will be carried out."

In places where, in the opinion of the country's present leaders, such conditions are absent, local committees should be "put in good order" (this is how a purge is officially termed in China today). According to PEOPLE'S DAILY, it should affect, primarily, "leading personages and their deputies" in the CUCY committees' leadership.

The process of recreating the Chinese komsomol emerges, in this latter variant, amid a series of serious difficulties. One difficulty involves the fate of the Red Guard movement. The assessment of the "Cultural Revolution," which continues to be officially praised, is to be found behind the issue of the attitude to the ex-Red Guard members. At the same time, it is known that the "Cultural Revolution" has opponents on all levels, including those among the highest leadership.

Judging by Chinese press reports, the 10th CUCY Congress will concern itself with establishing an essentially new organization of the Chinese youth, though its name remains.

Present Peking leaders will attempt to turn the CUCY into a weapon furthering the implementation of their great power, hegemonistic course.

GROMYKO TALKS WITH OFFICIALS ON GDR VISIT

Summary of Visit

LD121742Y Moscow TASS in English 1638 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, May 12, TASS--USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko paid an official friendly visit to the capital of the GDR on May 11-12.

The general secretary of the SUPG CC, chairman of the Council of State of the GDR Erich Honecker and Andrey Gromyko had meetings and talks.

Andrey Gromyko and GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer signed a USSR-GDR agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation.

Erich Honecker gave a luncheon in honour of Andrey Gromyko during which they exchanged speeches. The luncheon, which passed in the spirit of fraternal friendship and cordiality, was attended by leading figures in the GDR.

Gromyko Departs Berlin

LD121654Y Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, May 12, TASS--Politbureau member of the CPSU CC, USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, who was here for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Politbureau of the SUPG CC, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the GDR, left Berlin today.

He was seen off at the airport by Politbureau member, and secretary of the SUPG CC Hermann Axen, GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer, and the Soviet Ambassador to the GDR Petr Abrasimov.

Returns Home

LD121717Y Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, returned to Moscow today.

He stayed on a brief official visit in the GDR at the invitation of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the GDR.

USSR'S KUZNETSOV PRESENTS AWARD TO HUNGARIAN ENVOY

LD121939Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politiburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, awarded the Order of People's Friendship to Jozsef Marjai, ambassador of the Hungarian People's Republic to the Soviet Union, in the Kremlin in 12 May.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presdium and on Comrade Brezhnev's behalf, personally he cordially greeted Marjai. On the same day Comrade Kuznetsov received Marjai in connection with his forthcoming departure for home. A warm, friendly talk has taken place.

[Moscow in Hungarian to Hungary at 1800 GMT on 13 May adds the following to the above item: "Vasiliy Kuznetsov pointed out that manysided Soviet-Hungarian relations and the wide-ranging cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People's Republic have assumed a permanent and comprehensive nature. These relations have become important factors in the work of socialist and communist building in our countries. Kuznetsov emphasized that the regular meetings between Leonid Brezhnev and Janos Kadar played a determining role in the development of Soviet-Hungarian relations.

["Jozsef Marjai expressed his profound gratitude for the high award and good wishes to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Leonid Brezhnev personally.

["Also today Vasiliy Kuznetsov received Jozsef Marjai, who is about to return to his own country. The meeting, which was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere, was also attended by Maltsev, first deputy foreign minister; Kiselev, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee Department; and Lukyanov, chief of the Secretariat of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium."]

DEFENSE MINISTER USTINOV LEAVES ON HUNGARIAN VISIT

LD150955Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] At the invitation of Lt Gen Czinege, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic, a Soviet military delegation headed by Marshal of the Soviet Union Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, today left for a friendly official visit to the Hungarian People's Republic.

BRIEFS

CZECH CULTURE MINISTER IN KHARKOV--A Czechoslovak delegation arrived in Kharkov on 8 May to participate in joint celebrations on the occasion of the 33d anniversary of the Czechoslovakian liberation by the Soviet Army and of the 8th anniversary of signing the Soviet-Czechoslovak Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. A solemn public meeting was held. The fraternal country's envoys were welcomed at the meeting by Pernach, chairman of the Kharkovskaya Oblast branch of the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society. Klusak, head of the delegation and Czech minister of culture, expressed thanks for the warm welcome. On 9 May the delegation was scheduled to visit Sokolovo village where the first special Czechoslovak battalion under Ludvik Svoboda received its baptism of fire in March 1943. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 9 May 78 AU]

ITALY STILL REBOUNDING AFTER MORO'S ASSASSINATION

Vote of Confidence Asked

LD131812Y Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Rome, May 13, TASS--Giulio Andreotti, chairman of the Council of Ministers, put the question of confidence in the government in Parliament today. This step was taken in connection with the protracted discussion in the Chamber of Deputies of a government decree on combatting terrorism as a result of the obstructionist tactics of the neofascists and some others.

The decree on stepping up struggle against terrorism was adopted by the government immediately after the kidnapping of Aldo Moro, chairman of the National Council of the ruling Christian Democratic Party, in Rome on March 16. The decree envisages an enhancement of punishment for kidnapping as well as a whole number of other measures aimed at strengthening public order in Italy. During the discussion of the decree in the Chamber of Deputies, the forces of reaction launched a campaign with a view to preventing it from being translated into life.

In these conditions the chairman of the Council of Ministers decided to put the question of confidence in the government. This gives an opportunity to adopt a law without a prolonged procedure of discussion of numerous amendments. As was announced, voting in the Chamber of Deputies is to be held on Tuesday, since most of the political parties including the Italian Communist Party come out for the adoption of the new decree on combatting terrorism, the bringing in of a vote of confidence in the government raises no doubt.

Soviets Sign Condolences Book

LD122008Y Moscow TASS in English 1947 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Vladimir Kirillin and First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Victor Maltsev have visited Italy's Embassy in the USSR in connection with the tragic death of hairman of the National Council of the Christian Democratic Party of Italy, former Chairman of the Council of Ministers Aldo Moro and entered their signatures to the book of condolences.

FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT REPORTS ON BREZHNEV VISIT

LD121430Y Moscow TASS in English 1414 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 12 TASS--FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt made at a Bundestag meeting a government statement devoted to the results of the official visit to the FRG by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev.

Helmut Schmidt stressed that relations between the FRG and the USSR have great importance not only for both states and peoples but also for other European countries. A thoroughly prepared joint declaration was signed during Leonid Brezhnev's visit. It is a document which makes it possible to judge on the successes in normalization of Soviet-West German relations.

The joint declaration contains the guidelines for long-term development of bilateral relations. It must promote their durability and stability in the future.

The declaration, Helmut Schmidt said, does not pass in silence the fact that there exist differences and limitations which are reflected in relations between the two countries.

General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Leonid Brezhnev described the visit as useful, meaningful and necessary. I fully agree with this assessment, Helmut Schmidt said, and open and trusting nature of our conversations on bilateral relations and international events is an achievement in relations between the two countries that would seem impossible ten years ago, the chancellor said.

Leonid Brezhnev also met the chairmen of the four parties represented in the FRG Bundestag. I believe that it is important and approve of the fact that our relations with the Soviet Union are not limited to contacts between the governments, Helmut Schmidt said in this connection.

The conversations and talks clearly confirmed the participation of the General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev in the policy of detente and the Soviet Union's striving to continue this policy, Helmut Schmidt stressed.

This was, specifically, reflected in the fact that both sides declared again their striving for complete inplementation of all provisions of the final act of the Helsinki conference. We agreed that during the development of the process that was started by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe we must not allow a return to the situation that existed before the Helsinki conference.

Touching upon the discussion of the problems of disarmament and arms limitation during the talks, the FRG chancellor expressed the hope that these conversations will have a lasting stimulating effect on the international talks on disarmament.

Concerning the question of West Berlin, Helmut Schmidt stressed that the policy of the FRG Government "is not aimed at changing the existing situation". We wish to preserve and stabilize it, he said.

Helmut Schmidt said that it is necessary to discard the view that security and viability of West Berlin can be consolidated by ostentatious actions which actually do no good to anyone. He stressed that a responsible policy in that matter "must be guided by possibilities and limits stipulated in the four-power agreement".

In his statement, Helmut Schmidt also set out a well-known concept of certain circles of the FRG on the question of relations between the two German states.

Helmut Schmidt also pointed to special significance of the talks for further development of economic relations. The national economy of the Soviet Union and the economy of the FRG can largely supplement each other, the chancellor said. Both states are at a high level of development. But the Soviet Union has the energy and raw material resources we lack. At the same time we can offer very effective technology in many spheres. It was established in this question and other questions that bilateral interests can be coordinated. The long-term economic agreement that we concluded registers the readiness of both sides to take into consideration each other's interests.

This agreement goes far beyond the limits of economic matters. It contains the guidelines for the development of political relations in general and for lasting peaceful development of relations between our countries.

The chancellor declared in favour of the FRG and the USSR "meeting each other half way, even though there exist large differences in state and social organisation and differences in ideology which we do not underestimate".

He said that the joint declaration signed by the sides means the striving of both countries for a profound and lasting detente, for a dynamic continuation of the process whose beginning was set by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, for observance of the principles of approximate equality and parity in the sphere of armaments, for goodneighbourly relations and growing cooperation for future generations, too, for long-term economic cooperation, for achievement of a better mutual understanding and greater trust.

SWISS LABOR PARTY CONGRESS OPENS, KAPITONOV ATTENDS

Kapitonov Arrives in Geneva

ID121906Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1754 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Geneva--A CPSU delegation headed by Ivan Kapitonov, CPSU Central Committee Secretary, arrived here today. The delegation will take part in the 11th Congress of the Swiss Labor Party.

Congress Opens

ID132206Y Moscow TASS in English 2140 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 13, TASS--A regular, eleventh, Congress of the Swiss Party of Labour opened here today. It is attended by delegates representing all cantonal party organizations of the country. Present at the congress are delegates of 14 fraternal countries, among them a CPSU delegation led by Ivan Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Political and economic situation in the country and matters of party work will be discussed at the Swiss communists' forum for three days. The congress is to map out the main directions of the party's activity for the forthcoming period and elect the leading bodies of the party.

Jean Vincent, chairman of the Swiss Party of Labour, made an introductory speech at the opening of the congress. He cordially welcomed the delegates and foreign guests on behalf of the party's leadership.

Armand Magnin, member of the Political Bureau of the party, secretary of the party's Central Committee, delivered the Central Committee's report.

Over the period that has passed since the party's tenth congress which took place in June 1974, Switzerland encountered the crisis which afflicted the capitalist world, he said. This crisis which is not only economic but also ideological, political and moral, continually intensifies, bringing with it a general deterioration of the living conditions of workers and the entire people. Characterizing the situation in the present-day world, in Europe, in particular, the speaker emphasized that the safeguarding of peace, development and strengthening of peaceful coexistence are indispensable conditions for achieving successes in the struggle for freedom and democracy for the good of the peoples. In this connection he specially noted the role of the USSR and other socialist countries in the struggle for strengthening peaceful coexistence in Europe and throughout the world.

At present it must be the main task of all democratic and revolutionary forces, all peace-loving people, to struggle for nuclear disarmament and first of all for a ban on the neutron bomb which enhances the danger of outbreak of nuclear war he said.

Touching upon foreign-policy matters, the secretary of the party's Central Committee noted the importance of Switzerland's traditional neutrality and at the same time emphasized that it must more actively come out for disarmament, detente and peaceful coexistence.

The discussion of the report of the party's Central Committee, and speeches by foreign guests began at the congress. Ivan Kapitonov, the leader of the CPSU delegation, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was the first to take the floor. He was warmly cheered by those present.

Kapitonov Addresses Congress

LD1416 20Y Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, May 14, TASS--The CPSU is working consistently and persistently to assert and strengthen political detente, to attain real advances in military relaxation. This is the goal of the peace programme worked out by the 24th congress and further developed by the 25th Congress of the CPSU. Directed towards this goal are many Soviet initiatives, stated the head of a CPSU delegation, secretary of the CPSU CC, Ivan Kapitonov.

Kapitonov was addressing the 11th Congress of the Swiss Party of Labour, which continues at the Geneva Palace of Exhibitions.

The international situation, the speaker said, is at present characterised, first of all, by the confrontation between the forces of progress and peace and the forces of reaction and war. It is distinguished also by an unprecedented diversity of social development in different areas of the globe, in different countries. The communist parties take all this into account and, naturally, this largely determines the concrete character and specific features in the activities of each of them.

Along with this, the communist and workers' parties have great common deeds. And the most paramount and urgent among them is to arrest the arms race, to preserve and strengthen peace on earth, said the head of the CPSU delegation.

Particularly topical, Ivan Kapitonov said, is the set of proposals put forth by Leonid Brezhnev at the 18th YCL Congress on the complete ending of the further quantitative and qualitative growth of armaments and armed forces of states with a large military potential.

The Soviet communists, all the people of our country, the head of the CPSU delegation stressed, are working with inspiration and selflessly to implement the majestic plans of communist construction. The 25th CPSU Congress adopted a grandious programme of economic, social and cultural developments. Its essence and main direction is to ensure the further growth of the well-being and the spiritual enrichment of the Soviet people.

All our achievements became possible, Ivan Kapitonov said, because leading the Soviet people to the peaks of social progress is the military and tested vanguard--the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The CPSU today has a membership of more than 16 million like-minded communists, it is the leading and guiding force of Soviet society, the core of its political system.

Doing its duty to the working class, to their countries, the communist parties are now vigorously and persistently seeking ways to resolve the new tasks set them by life. Of particular importance here, the speaker noted, is to keep in view all the time that reliable beacon which is called Marxism-Leninism, the general law-bound regularities and principles of revolutionary action and the socialist reshaping of the world, the life-giving ideas of proletarian internationalism.

FRENCH, SWEDISH COMMUNISTS HOLD MEETING IN PARIS

LD131022Y Moscow TASS in English 0946 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Paris, May 13, TASS--Leaders of the French Communist Party and the Left Party-Communists of Sweden held a meeting in Paris. They discussed the objectives of the communists and the working people of France and Sweden under the conditions of the present crisis of capitalism. Both sides stressed in the joint communique that the "struggle for social progress and democracy is inseparable from the struggle for peace." Both parties, the communique says, are waging a resolute struggle for the implementation of all the provisions of the final act of the Helsinki conference by all the states signatories to this document and expressed the wish that the U.N. special session on disarmament be marked by adoption of concrete measures for curbing the arms race.

SOVIET WARSHIP SQUADRON CONTINUES VISIT TO FRANCE

LD131920Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1255 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Bordeaux--The squadron of Soviet warships under the command of Rear Adm Vitaliy Zub is continuing its visit to France. The inhabitants of Bordeaux and nearby towns are welcoming the North Sea sailors of the cruiser Murmansk and the destroyer Smyshlenyy.

In the municipal theater of Bordeaux a successful concert has been given by the song-and-dance ensemble of the Red Banner Northern Fleet.

Ends Bordeaux Visit

LD142250Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Bordeaux--The visit to France of a detachment of Soviet warships of the Red Banner Northern Fleet under the command of Rear Admiral V. Zub has ended.

Having exchanged salutes with the French warship Aconit, the cruiser Murmansk and the destroyer Smyshlenyy have set sail for the open sea. The visit of the Northern Fleet sailors, warmly received by official representatives and inhabitants of Bordeaux, turned into a manifestation of friendship between the Soviet and French peoples.

KOSYGIN CONGRATULATES PARIS MONTHLY ON ANNIVERSARY

LD111934Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 11 May 78 LD

[Excerpt] Paris--"The jubilee issue of ETUDES SOVIETIQUES has published a message from A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, which stresses that the magazine is successfully fulfilling a noble mission--it is promoting the development of traditional bonds of friendship which link the peoples of the USSR and France and it carries truthful information about Soviet reality.

"Soviet-French friendship, the message notes, has deep and firm roots. It has stood the test of time, and has been tempered in the struggle against the common enemy--fascism. Soviet people have always felt respect for France, the talented and freedom-loving people of France, its glorious revolutionary traditions, and its scientific and cultural achievements.

"The Soviet Union and France," it goes on, "were initiators of detente. They have begun in practice to build relations of good accord and cooperation between states with different sociopolitical systems. These relations correspond with the spirit and the letter of that historic document, the final act of the Helsinki conference. They correspond with the fundamental interests of our two countries, and with the interests of ensuring security and mutual trust in Europe."

NO CANADIAN FEDERAL ELECTIONS IN NEAR FUTURE

LD121344Y Moscow TASS in English 1314 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Ottawa, May 12 TASS--TASS correspondent Vsevolod Polonskiy reports:

Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau said that there will be no general elections in Canada in the near future. The head of the Canadian Government made this statement in connection with speculations that preterm elections to the Federal Parliament will be held in one of the summer months.

According to the prime minister, the problems facing Canada can better be solved in Parliament rather than during the election campaign. The elections will, possibly, be held in the spring of next year.

The present Liberal Party government led by Pierre Elliot Trudeau was elected in July 1974, for a term of five years that will expire in July, 1979. But under a tradition existing in Canada, federal parliamentary elections are held once every four years.

It was expected that the elections would be appointed for July 10 of the current year. The election campaign actually started in the country but the latest public opinion poll showed a sharp drop in the popularity of the ruling Liberal Party.

The results of the poll reflect the Canadians' displeasure with the difficult economic situation in the country. Mass unemployment, the spiralling of prices, the drop in the rate of the Canadian dollar had a negative effect on the attitude of voters. In this situation, the leadership of the Liberal Party decided to put off the elections.

USSR, BELGIUM SIGN SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AGREEMENT

LD122010Y Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 12, TASS--Today the USSR and Belgium signed in Moscow a programme for scientific and cultural cooperation in 1979-1980. The programme envisages numerous measures to facilitate the further aquaintance of the Soviet and Belgian public with the life of the peoples of the two countries.

PORTUGUESE CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM OPENS

LD131552Y Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Lisbon, May 13, TASS--A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Portuguese Communist Party opened here today. On the agenda are items relating to the political situation in the country.

AUSTRIAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY MARKED ON 15 MAY

LD141022Y Moscow TASS in English 0711 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Vienna, May 14, TASS--Igor Maslov, a TASS correspondent, reports:

Tomorrow will be the 23rd anniversary of the signing of the State Treaty on restoration of an independent and democratic Austria. Sealed in 1955 by the signatures of the foreign ministers of the USSR, the USA, Britain and France, on the one hand, and Austria, on the other, this document became the firm foundation on which the Alpine republic was created. The course of neutrality which it chose met the interests not only of the Austrian people but also the interests of the policy of detente and goodneighbourliness in Europe as a whole.

The years that have passed since the signing of the treaty fully confirmed the advantages and effectiveness of the permanent neutrality course to which the republic invariably adheres. Due to its central position in the European Continent, Austria plays an important role. Vienna has become the venue of various international meetings and negotiations. The International Atomic Energy Agency and the U.N. Industrial Development Organization, have their seat here. In Laxenburg near Vienna scientists from many countries successfully cooperate at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. Topical questions of disarmament are being discussed at the Vienna talks on mutual reduction of the armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

Austria's diverse contacts with the states of the socialist community develop successfully and favourably. Mutual advantage, trust and the desire to contribute to deepening the process of detente and strengthening peace through joint efforts are characteristic of these contacts.

Goodneighbourly relations have revolved between Austria and the Soviet Union. Goods turnover between the two countries grows from year to year. More and more Austrian tourists visit the USSR to see for themselves the remarkable achievements of real socialism.

The further development of friendly relations between the USSR and Austria has been promoted by the working visit to Moscow by Federal Chancellor Bruno Kreisky in February this year. The sides' intention to continue to widen cooperation in the political, trade-and-economic and other fields on the firm basis of the State Treaty on restoration of independent and democratic Austria was reaffirmed when the chancellor was received by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

MATERIAL ON 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF MODERN JEWISH STATE

Massive Weapons Supplies

LD131134Y Moscow in English to North America 0000 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] This week Israel celebrates the 30th anniversary of its birth as a modern state. In Israel itself this occasion is marked on 11 May, according to the Hebrew calendar. Elsewhere the anniversary falls on 14 May going by the normal Western calendar when the Jewish state was proclaimed in 1948. Outside of Israel the biggest festivities to mark the occasion are expected to be held in the United States with scheduled fireworks in several major cities and, of course, public orations from a good many speakers. Here is commentary by our observer:

It has been fairly common in the United States to think of Israel in terms of a defenseless small state populated by a long-suffering people whose heartfelt desire is to be finally left in peace. This kind of image, to a great degree, is attributable of course to the Nazi campaign against Jews during World War II. The millions of Jews lost their lives as the result of a frenzied effort to decimate the world's Jewish population. And indeed their tribulations at the hands of the German Brownshirts generally evoke nothing but the deepest sympathy and sorrow, just as we experience these feelings for people of other nationalities who suffered in the course of the war, and perhaps lost proportionately just as many human lives. Today, as the Jewish state celebrates the 30th anniversary of its birth, to all appearances it is anything but a defenseless and submissive prey. Its territorial acquisitions made in modern times at the expense of the neighboring peoples would have astounded any of the biblical kings in the ancient Holy Land, and if the process required the booting of a whole people from their lands the end result was obviously thought in Tel Aviv to be well worth the effort. Israeli armed forces today are said to be better equipped than those of many West European countries. Credit for this is due, of course, to the United States. As it happens, the Jewish state is the sole exception to a 1973 United States law forbidding outright military gifts to other countries. As a result, most of the military assistance received from the United States is on the house, with the American taxpayer footing the bill. In short, Israel has every reason to feel happy about its relationship with the United States.

The American Jewry wield an influence in the United States that is spread way out of all proportion to the actual number of this ethnic group living in America, and the pro-Israeli lobby in American political life is currently so powerful and pervasive that it has become the butt of many a good joke around the world. Obviously well aware of this kind of support from within the United States, Israeli leaders have long stopped playing the humble Jew while visiting that country. Should they hear something not to their liking, they can easily afford to ignore their immediate hosts and start dealing directly with their closest allies in America. So far, they have been able to get away with it and what's more could still get everything they were after. However, despite billions of dollars in gratuitous aid and unqualified friendship of such a powerful ally, a friendship that Israel has been meticulously cultivating all these years, peace with its Arab neighbors today appears as elusive as ever. Most Israelis continue to bear the imprint of a siege mentality. The high hopes for peace among the Israelis, however exaggerated and half-baked, when last November Anwar as-Sadat trekked to Jerusalem, have all but flickered out with the Israeli leadership taking up an intransigent position. In mid-March the talk of peace was again smothered by Israel's massive invasion of south Lebanon, and once again the specter of an all-out war stalked that troubled world area.

As the experience of Israel's 30 year existence has shown, the modern Jewish state has not been best assisted by massive supplies of the most sophisticated weapons. If anything, such an approach has turned out to be a failure, in fact proved counterproductive. Ironically, the stronger Israel became militarily, the less assured it became of a chance for peace. Military might only tended to make the Jewish state ever more intransigent and oblivious to the situation existing in the Middle East. And the situation seems to indicate that you cannot behave toward your nighbors like a rampaging bull in a chinashop, whatever your reasons may be, and still retain their good graces and sympathy. Sooner or later, you'd be called to order and can be expected to behave yourself or face the consequences.

Antiwar Feeling in Israel

LD131335Y Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Paris, May 13, TASS--The 30-year old struggle of the Palestinian people for its rights was not fruitless. At the price of heroic efforts and self-sacrifice, the idea of national Palestinian entity has paved the way for itself in the world, a press conference was told here on Friday by [name indistinct], head of the PLO information and liaison bureau in Paris.

Another [words indistinct] the crisis, which Israel is now experiencing. This crisis finds its expression in grave social conflicts, economic difficulties, almost total international isolation of Israel and internal opposition to its political expansion and aggression.

A growth of anti-war feeling in Israel, condemnation of its aggression policy was also noted by David Burstein, member of the Politbureau of the Communist Party of Israel CC, who was on a stop-over in Paris. Speaking with a L'HUMANITE correspondent, he said that Israeli soldiers returning from Lebanon say that they no longer wish to fight against old people, women and children. Demands are expressed even among Israeli officers for the withdrawal of the army to Israel's territory.

U.S. SAID TO SEEK BASES TO INSURE ISRAELI SECURITY

LD121718Y Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 12, TASS--The United States tries to create in the Middle East new military bases and a ramified intelligence network to consolidate its positions in the Middle East and to create conditions for ensuring Israel's security, writes a correspondent of the Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR from Washington. He stresses that a delegation of the CIA of the United States recently toured Israel and a number of Arab countries, and its recommendations were later referred for discussion to a special committee of the U.S. Congress. The main idea of the recommendations is that the United States must have in the Middle East an effective quick-acting military presence so as to protect its vital interests in the area. Such a presence, in the CIA's opinion, must guarantee security of Israel and must encourage Arab countries to join the Israeli-Egyptian separate talk.

On the proposal of the CIA delegation, the United States military presence must be represented by U.S. military bases in the Sinai and in Asyun, southwest of Eilat, by a naval base in Haifa and a network of early warning radar stations that will stretch from the Sinai to the Golan Heights. The newspaper reports that for several months now, U.S. planes use the base in Asyun for conducting reconnaissance in the area of the Red Sea, the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean. The CIA delegation suggests that ten thousand of U.S. soldiers should be stationed at these bases and that it should be attempted to spread the U.S. military presence to Jordan and Lebanon.

According to the newspaper, this subject was discussed by the United States leadership with Begin and Dayan and also by the secretary of the Air Force of the United States with leaders of Saudi Arabia when he was visiting [words indistinct]. The newspaper stresses that the Americans got the impression that this project can be implemented.

ARAB CONDEMNATION GREETS U.S. AIRCRAFT DECISION

LD121524Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Correspondent Leonid Rassadin report from Beirut]

[Text] The Arab World has greeted the fresh evidence of U.S. pandering to the aggressive, expansionist course of Israel with sharp condemnation. What is involved here is a White House spokesman's statement expressing Washington's readiness to supply Tel Aviv with an additional batch of ultramodern F-15 aircraft.

I remind you that the U.S. Congress is now discussing the matter of the so-called package deal which envisages the Pentagon supplying military aircraft to Israel, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Initially, according to this plan, Tel Aviv was to recieve 15 F-15 and 65 F-16 aircraft, Riyadh 60 F-15 aircraft, and Cairo 50 F-5 aircraft, which in the view of military specialists have already long since been obsolete.

However, this proposition by President Carter ran into opposition from the Zionist lobby in the United States, whereupon the U.S. administration, in order to save its plan, announced its readiness to supply Israel with at least another 20 F-15 fighter-bombers.

Why did Washington find it necessary to raise all this rumpus about a routine military deal? After all, the deal in no way influences the balance of forces between Israel on the one side and Saudi Arabia and Egypt on the other, a balance which will evidently remain in Tel Aviv's favor. Even now, according to data from the journal (?EVENTS) the Israeli Air Force consists of 750 combat machines, which is more than double the number of Egyptian aircraft and more than si[illegible]imes that of the Saudis.

It is quite obvious that the U.S. administration is playing out a kind of spectacle (?aimed only) at finding a convenient pretext for reequipping the Israeli Air Force, which is the babkbone of the aggressive Tel Aviv military machine.

As regards the supplies of U.S. aircraft intended for Saudi Arabia and Egypt, as the progressive Arab press points out, these plans represent a political rather than a military deal to bind both Riyadh and Cairo even further to the chariot of imperialism in the Near East, primarily to protect the interests of the imperialist oil monopolies in that region.

U.S. MILITARY PLANS THREATEN PERSIAN GULF, PAPERS SAY

LD132030Y Moscow TASS in English 1959 GMT 13 May 78 LD

["Pentagon's Scheming"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Kuwait, May 13, TASS--The United States does not abandon its plans to consolidate military control over the Persian Gulf area. In an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH L. Janka, former high-ranking staff member of the Pentagon, said the United States is planning to create airborne troops that in case of necessity can be urgently airlifted to the Persian Gulf area for a military interference. Janka who is now touring a number of Arab countries specified that such airborne troops are supposed to be based in one of NATO countries.

It is obvious from his words that Washington also intends to widen the "presence" of its navy in the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean. He said the USA already concluded an agreement with the Government of Bahrain on the use of ports, and an agreement with Qabus, sultan of Oman, on the lease of the base in Masirah Island.

Baghdad, May 13, TASS--The ensurance of stability in the Persian Gulf area meets the vital interests of the peoples of countries on its coast, writes the newspaper AL-IRAQ. This is prevented, however, by U.S. military bases which extended tentacles all over the area.

Commenting on Western powers' intentions to implement the pro-imperialist plans for a "collective security system" in the Persian Gulf area, the newspaper points out: Can the security of the states of our region be genuine when the U.S. fleet injoys privileges at some Arab ports and when military agreements are signed with the USA secretly and openly? The United States is bringing the main threat to the security of the area. It is essential to resist Washington's threats and its manoeuvres, conspiracies, political and military interference in the affairs of Persian Gulf countries, AL-IRAQ emphasizes.

'ARAFAT ON U.S. POLICY, MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

LD131002Y Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 13, TASS--U.S. policy in the Middle East is aimed at ending the Palestinian revolution and imposing a capitulation on the Arab peoples, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Yasir 'Arafat told a press conference in Abu Dhabi.

Criticising Washington's stand on the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for its legitimate rights, he again stressed the necessity of participation of PLO representatives in any peace talks on the Middle East problem.

Middle East Settlement

LD131004Y Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Warsaw, May 13, TASS--Speaking in an interview with the Polish CZAS weekly, Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation Yasir 'Arafat said that the joint Soviet-U.S. statement on the Middle East must be regarded as a basis for a peaceful Middle East settlement.

PLO, Yasir 'Arafat stressed, has always come out for a just peace in the Middle East, while Israel strives not for peace but for expansion.

Yasir 'Arafat noted that PLO had undertaken to give all the necessary assistance to the U.N. peace-keeping force in Lebanon. We hold, he said, that the U.N. forces were brought into Lebanon in order to exercise control over full withdrawal of Israeli troops from the country's territory in keeping with the resolution of the U.N. Security Council.

FRG SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE BACKS PLO PARTICIPATION IN TALKS

LD131011Z Moscow TASS in English 0758 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, May 13, TASS--The West German committee of anti-imperialist solidarity with the peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America has called for support for the struggle waged by the Palestinian people and progressive forces in the Middle East for a just and lasting peace in that area.

The statement by the committee says that the recent events in the south of Lebanon have again shown for all to see that it is impossible to establish peace in the Middle East until a just settlement of the Palestinian issue is found. Such a settlement must take into account the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine to create its own state. Such a peaceful settlement, the statement stresses, must also provide for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied Arab territories and be based on the principles of independence and sovereignty of all peoples and states in that area.

The committee considers necessary the participation in the process of peaceful settlement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation as an equal partner.

BEGIN'S AIDE CONFIRMS ISRAELI STAND TOWARD PALESTINIANS

LD122108Y Moscow TASS in English 1935 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] London, May 12, TASS--Expansionism and grossly trampling on the rights of the Arab people of Palestine will continuously determine the position of Israel in the matter of a Middle East settlement. Fresh confirmation of this came in a statement of Yoram Aridor, a top aide to Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Speaking on Thursday in The Hague, REUTER reports, he described the demands by the world community for ensuring the legitimate rights of the Palestine Arab people to create its own state as "unjustified and dangerous" for Israel.

The Israeli emissary interprets the concepts of what is justified and unjustified obviously according to the notorious Zionist yardstick: In his view creating a state for the Jewish population of Palestine was justified, but ensuring a similar right to the Arab people of Palestine is unjustified.

There is no less causistry in Aridor's discourse about the "danger" allegedly threatening Israel in the case a Palestine Arab state would be created. "The Arab people already have 21 states," Aridor goes on, and the establishment of a 22nd Arab state "would be the first step towards the destruction of Israel."

The Zionist's candidness shows what is really concealed behind declarations about a "striving for peace" by Tel Aviv ruling circles. Ensuring the rights of the Palestine Arab people to a state of their own, as demanded by the well known U.N. resolutions, is a key question of a Middle East settlement. Denying this inalienable right of the Palestine Arab people, Tel Aviv actually reiterates its intention to go on torpedoing a just solution of the Middle East problem.

ISRAEL DEMANDS REGISTRATION OF ARABS IN OCCUPIED LANDS

LD121434Y Moscow TASS in English 1416 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Amman, May 12, TASS--The Israeli authorities are taking measures to keep the Arab population of the occupied Western Bank of the River Jordan under strict police supervision. According to reports that have reached here the military administration has issued a decree on strict registration of all Arabs residing in the occupied areas. This measure, the Israeli administration believes, is to prevent mass Arab actions against the occupation authorities.

FURTHER MATERIAL ON ISRAELI ACTIVITIES IN LEBANON

'Unstable' Situation Described

LD131424Y Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 13, TASS--The unstable situation in Lebanon as a result of the protracted cabinet crisis and the occupation of southern areas by Israel has left its imprint on every-day life in that country. The situation in the capital, which was a scene of clashes between the armed detachments of Phalangists and the national-liberal party, has sharply aggravated during the last two days. The strife in the ranks of right-wing Christian forces, as a result of which there are (?some) killed and more than 30 injured, has revealed the deep-going internal contradictions both as regards the composition of the new cabinet and prospects for the country's development. One of the leaders of the Maronite community, former President of the Republic Sulayman Franjiyah, declared withdrawal from the conservative "Lebanese Front" in protest against its policy.

Meanwhile, calls are ever more persistently made in various political circles of the country for forming promptly a cabinet, on the basis of a clear programme, that could represent all the political groupings. Addressing a press conference Chairman of the Lebanese parliament Kamal al-Asad stressed the necessity of ending the crisis as soon as possible and warned that further delay may again plunge the country into a state of chaos. Meetings were held in Beirut in support of the programme put forward by the national-patriotic forces of the country for forming a cabinet and struggle against the Israeli occupation. Addressing the meetings, the speakers urged all the progressive forces of the country to strengthen solidarity and cohesion in face of the continuing conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, that are striving not to allow a normalisation of the situation in the country and leading Lebanon to partitioning and division.

Demonstrations, Arrests, Torture

LD131452Y Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 13, TASS--Mass demonstrations of protest against the Israeli continued occupation of Lebanon's territory have been held in the captured south Lebanese settlement of Aynata and Bint Jubayl. The participants in the demonstrations resolutely demanded an end to the arbitrary rule perpetrated by the Israeli occupationists and their immediate withdrawal from the Lebanese land. According to reports reaching here, residents of the occupied south of the country have no possibility to go to work and to cultivate fields as a result of illegal actions of the military command under the pretext of "ensuring security" of the Israeli troops. In the past three days alone, arrested in Bint Jubayl were 15 citizens who are subjected to incessant interrogations and tortures.

Building of Fortifications

LD150732Y Moscow TASS in English 0630 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 14, TASS--TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Korzelev reports: Alarming news is coming from the south of Lebanon. In spite of the demands of world public for the immediate withdrawal of Israeli troops from the occupied territory of southern Lebanon, Tel Aviv is doing its utmost to consolidate ground there.

Using a smokescreen the verbiage on creating some "security belt", the aggressors are building fortification installations and roads, are laying mine fields.

The Israeli troops recaptured yesterday the populated locality of Tibqin at a distance of 12 kilometers south of Tyre, which they left earlier. In Tibnin, 'Ayn Mazrab, Kar-Hammam, Israeli patrols broke into some villages, interrograted their inhabitants and searched houses. Considerable movements of Israeli troops, concentration of vehicles and military equipment was observed in Hreiva area.

The provocative actions of Israeli military are a source of great concern in Lebanon. In this connection, political observers do not exclude the possibility that Tel Aviv may mount new large-scale military actions against the sovereign Arab state.

ARABS CONCERNED OVER ISRAELI STATEMENT ON WEST BANK

LD132334Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] The statement by General Eytan, the new chief of staff of the Israeli Army, that Israeli should keep control of the West Bank of the Jordan and the Golan Heights which were seized as long ago as 1967, has brought a wave of concern to the Arab world. Our correspondent Leonid Rassadin reports from Beirut:

This statement is being considered here as another confirmation of the militeristic mood which is growing in Israel. The hardening of the aggressive, expansionist line of Tel Aviv is taking place against a background of ever growing military and political support for Israel from the United States. The Israeli paper HA'AREZ, quoting one of President Carter's aides, writes that Washington is supporting the demands put forward by Israel on a settlement in the Near East region. The United States is refraining from making any appeals to Israel to withdraw its troops from all occupied Arab territories. Similar to Tel Aviv, Washington is coming out against the creation of a Palestinian state. The progressive Arab press is pointing out that the position of the United States and Israel on a Near East settlement is in many ways in harmony with the position of Egyptian President as-Sadat. This is shown by his interview to the New York TIMES in which the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine for self-determination are completely ignored. In Palestinian political circles warnings are being made because of this against the continuing attempts of the imperialists, Zionism and reaction to foist on Arabs a capitulationary plan for the solution of the problems of the area. These attempts take the most varied forms at the moment, such as the desire to achieve an Egyptian-Israeli separate deal, supplying Israel with new ultramodern American arms, and open military pressure from Tel Aviv.

NEW ISRAELI POLICE REPRISALS ON WEST BANK REPORTED

LD121406Y Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, May 12 TASS--A new wave of police reprisals swept the Israel-occupied Western Bank of the Jordan. Israeli military tribunals in the cities of Lydda, Janin and Ramallah sentenced a group of Arabs to various prison terms. Like before, a trumped-up charge of connections with the Palestinian resistance is brought against them. In Ramallha, the Israeli police authorities for the fourth time arrested Raymonde Tawil, a progressive Palestinian woman journalist, for participation in a protest demonstration. Several days before that, under the pressure of the public opinion, the authorities had to release her from dungeons where she was kept for over a month and a half without any charge brought against her.

SYRIAN COMMUNISTS ASK PRC TO RECONSIDER USSR INITIATIVE

LD122037Y Moscow TASS in English 2012 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, May 12, TASS--The Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party addressed a message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China containing a call to reconsider the attitude of the PRC leadership to the Soviet Union's initiative to normalize Chinese-Soviet relations.

We are convinced, the message says, that in its initiative the USSR proceeds from the interests of world peace, the interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples, the world communist movement and its unity. The Syrian Communist Party assesses positively the Soviet initiative, regarding it as a new contribution to the cause of implementing the Leninist policy approved at the 25th Congress of the CPSU. All the progressive and patriotic forces in our country have learned with profound regret about your negative attitude to the initiative of the USSR, about your refusal to respond to it and about the attempts to impose your own terms, affecting the borders of the Soviet state and the interests of the Soviet and other peoples.

The great efforts exerted by the CPSU and the Soviet Government to normalise the relations between the two states and parties, the message goes on to say, are highly prized in our country. The words of Leonid Brezhnev related to this matter, pronounced in connection with the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, are well remembered in Syria.

The Syrian Communists, as people of like mind throughout the world, inquire: How can such a party as the CPC ignore its own past, renounce the principled Marxist-Leninist course, go over to positions that are diametrically opposite to it? How can such a party hold the imperialist circles to be allies of China, and the world's first socialist state to be its enemy? Who can believe the inventions about the Soviet Unions' hostility to the cause of peace, socialism and liberation of the peoples? We are convinced that not a single genuine patriot and champion of progress in Syria can understand the course conducted by the leadership of the Communist Party of China.

Your present actions, the message goes on to say, fully contradict the principles of peaceful coexistence and the idea of the Bandung conference in the elaboration of which the Communist Party of China had also taken part. Do you not realise that only imperialists stand to gain from such a course, primarily U.S. imperialism?

On behalf of all the Syrian communists, the progressive and patriotic forces of Syria, the Central Committee of the Syrian Communist Party urges the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China to respond to the friendly initiative of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, which meets the interests of the Chinese people themselves, and the peoples of the states of the socialist community, the interests of the national-liberation and international workers' movements, the interests of the peace and socialism all over the world.

CHERNENKO TO ATTEND GREEK 10TH PARTY CONGRESS

Seen Off by Ponomarev

LD140854Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] A CPSU delegation has left Moscow for Athens, to take part in the 10th Congress of the Communist Party of Greece. The delegation is led by Chernenko, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. At the airport the delegation was seen off by Comrade Ponomarev and other officials.

Arrival in Athens

LD142015Y Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Athens, May 14, TASS--A CPSU delegation headed by alternate Politbureau member and Secretary of the CPSU CC Konstantin Chernenko arrived here today. At the airport the delegation was met by the First Secretary of the Greek Communist Party CC Kharilaos Florakis and other party leaders, as well as USSR Ambassador in Greece Ivan Udaltsov. The delegation of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, said the delegation's head at the airport, arrived in Greece at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Greek Communist Party to attend the GCP's 10th Congress. Close, truly fraternal relations exist between the CPSU and the GCP, which rest on the unshakable foundation of firm loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, stated Konstantin Chernenko. This explains the complete mutual understanding between our two parties. Greek communists have passed a long and hard school of class struggle, have accumulated rich experience in upholding the vital interests of the working people under different conditions. For decades the communists were subjected to brutal persecution. Attempts were made to compel them to give up the struggle, to break their will, but no one was able to do this, noted the head of the CPSU delegation. Throughout these difficult years, Konstantin Chernenko said, Soviet communists displayed consistent military solidarity with their Greek comrades. The fraternal friendship between our parties was forged not in words but in deeds. And we are happy to be the guests of our sincere friends and to personally pay our respects and convey greetings from Soviet communists. We have no doubt that the 10th GCP Congress--the first legal congress of the party in postwar years--will seriously influence the further development of the country's political life along the road of peace and democracy. The head of the CPSU delegation expressed confidence that the CPSU delegation's stay in Greece "will be useful and that not only the fraternal relations between our parties will strengthen, but it will promote the further development of the friendly ties between our peoples and states.

Congress Opening

LD151150Y Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Athens, May 15, TASS--The Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Greece--the first legal congress of the Greek Communists throughout the post-war times--has opened here. It is being attended by more than one thousand delegates. Also present at the congress are representatives of more than 40 fraternal communist and workers' parties and national liberation movements, including a CPSU delegation led by alternate member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Konstantin Chernenko. A report is to be delivered today by First Secretary of the Communist Party of Greece Central Committee Kharilaos Florakis.

'INSURRECTIONIST' ACTION AGAIN TAKES PLACE IN ZAIRE

LD151244Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0530 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] According to an AFP report, an action by insurrectionists has again taken place in Zaire's southeastern Province of Shaba. According to the information of the authorities, some 4,000 men attacked the town of Kolwezi on Thursday. The town is a major center of the copper industry.

Yesterday, the insurrectionists attempted to take the town of Mutshasha, situated to the west of Kolwezi.

COUP IN COMOROS; MILITARY-POLITICAL GROUP IN POWER

LD131818Y Moscow TASS in English 1755 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] London, May 13, TASS--As the REUTER news agency reports with reference to Radio Moroni, a coup took place in the capital of the Republic of Comoro Islands today. President Ali Soilih is deposed. The power in the country passed to a military-political directory.

MATERIAL ON ACTIVITIES OF ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA

Praises Soviet Aid

LD132208Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Zambian President Kaunda has given a high assessment of the Soviet Union's role in giving support to the liberation movements in southern Africa and also to the peoples who have gained their national liberation. When receiving a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation which is in the country, the head of the Zambian Government emphasized that close ties have been established between the USSR and Zambia in the field of politics, the economy and culture.

Leaves for UK, U.S.

LD131900Y Moscow TASS in English 1702 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, May 13, TASS-Today Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda left for the USA for an official visit. During his ten-day stay in the United States he is to meet President James Carter and is to hold talks with him on the situation in Africa's south as well as on other matters of mutual interest.

On his way to Washington the president of Zambia is to make a three-day stop-over in London where he is due to meet British Prime Minister James Callaghan and to discuss with him the situation in Rhodesia.

CONDITIONS FOR ADJUSTING ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI RELATIONS LISTED

LD121118Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 11 May 78 LD

[Text] In the following item, Vsevolod Sofinskiy of the Soviet Foreign Ministry analyses the situation in the Horn of Africa and the Soviet position with regard to the conflict in that region.

Problems related to the Horn of Africa are being widely discussed in many countries including those situated far away from that region. A few days ago, President Carter made some points. In his speech at Spokane, Washington, President Carter claimed that wars in Africa are provoked by the Soviet Union while the United States acts on the continent as a peacemaker. In this context it would be useful to recall the history of the armed conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia and to trace back the stand taken by the Soviet Government.

First, armed clashes between the two African countries took place after Somalia, without concealing her territorial claims to neighboring countries, sent her regular troops to the Ogaden Desert in Ethiopia. The military confrontation interfered with the interests of the Soviet Union which had predictably maintained friendly relations with both Somalia and Ethiopia. The Western countries, the Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE observes in a commentary, wanted to kill two birds with one stone: in other words, in pursuance of their chief goal, they sought to destabilize both Ethiopia and Somalia by isolating each of the countries from objective and natural allies. The Soviet Government fully realized that a war in the Horn of Africa would play into the hands of none but the imperialist powers and local reactionaries who have been trying to eliminate progressive regimes in Africa with the help of fratricidal wars. In that situation, the Soviet Union did all in its power to prevent an armed conflict. It's a known fact that the Soviet Government more than once warned the Somali leadership against settling controversies, including territorial ones, by military means and declaring that such attempts were dangerous and inadmissible.

The leaders of Somalia were also warned about the harsh consequences an armed attack on neighboring Ethiopia might lead to. Yet President Siad Barre ignored the warnings and chose to collude directly with the imperialists and reactionary Arab regimes.

The campaign launched by the West and its allies to drag the Somali leadership into military adventures and set it against Ethiopia produced results. The Somali Armed Forces crossed into Ogaden and overran almost the whole of it. (?Then) the NATO countries began to supply the invaders with weapons to be used against the Ethiopian people that rose to defend their country. In some cases Somalia received Western arms not directly from the United States or the Western countries but through Saudi Arabia and other conservative countries of the Middle East. In these conditions and in keeping with the principles of its foreign policy, the Soviet Union decided to give material and technical aid to the victim of aggression. The Soviet Union was not seeking any advantage or privileges for itself. Its position is determined by the principles of international law, justice and humanism. Simultaneously the Soviet Government continued to take measures to secure a negotiated settlement in the region and demand that the invaders withdraw from Ethiopia at once and without conditions.

Eventually, the fighting in Ogaden in which Somali troops took part came to a halt. The Somali Armed Forces suffered defeat and retreated. Yet unfortunately, peace in the Horn of Africa has not been restored completely. What stands in the way of normalization in Somali-Ethiopian relations on a firm, long-term basis? One of the main obstacles still lies in the position of Somalia and the policy of the Western powers. Although an open aggression has been liquidated, there are still many antipopular forces which, with the West behind them, keep opposing Ethiopia's unity and the Ethiopian revolution. The Somali leaders still adhere to the policy of chauvinism and interference in the home affairs of neighboring countries. Neither have they given up their territorial claims. In a recent statement Siad Barre has declared that an international recognition of Ethiopia's borders is out of the question. Radio Mogadiscio and the DANAB bulletin, published in Somalia by a terrorist organization, report active operations conducted in Bale, Sidamo and other parts of Ethiopia.

Somalia's charge d'affaires in Kenya has said lately that Somalia will give further moral and material support to rebellious groups in Ethiopia. All that indicates that Mogadiscio intends to continue its dangerous policy of expansion.

There can be no peace in the African Continent unless all the sides concerned show good will, unless there is a sincere desire to solve existing problems at the conference table. The Soviet Union shares Ethiopia's conviction that her relations with Somalia can be adjusted on the basis of mutual respect of national sovereignty and territorial integrity, on the basis of noninterference in each other's affairs.

MENGISTU ON ATTEMPTS TO STIFLE ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION

LD141414Y Moscow TASS in English 1400 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 14, TASS--The mass of people of Ethiopia, who scored a victory over the forces of internal reaction and upheld their country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, are resolved to follow further the road mapped out by the national democratic revolution, the road of construction of a new society of social justice and equality, said Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia Mengistu Haile Mariam.

Addressing a meeting in the town of Jijiga, he said that revolutionary Ethiopia has become now an arena of uncompromising struggle between the forces of peace and socialism on the one hand and the forces of reaction and imperialism on the other. It succeeded in gaining recognition and respect of the entire progressive mankind, above all of the Soviet Union, Cuba and the other countries of the socialist community, which have given and continue to give disinterested aid and support to the people of Ethiopia guided by the principles of proletarian internationalism.

But international imperialism, Mengistu Haile Marian went on to say, does not give up its attempts at stifling the Ethiopian revolution. The imperialist powers are supplying Somalia with modern weapons at an increasing scale. Thousands of Egyptian servicemen and advisers as well as military personnel of a number of other countries are until now in Somalia, so as to try to invade Ethiopia's territory again if opportunity presents. The reactionary Arab regimes are ready to come out on the side of Mogadiscio. External forces are encouraging in every way possible the activity of internal reaction in Ethiopia and separatist groupings in Eritrea.

Mengistu Haile Mariam touched upon the situation in the area of the Horn of Africa and noted that Somalia has not ended its political and military interference in the internal affairs of Ethiopia, has not recognised its state borders until now and has not given up its territorial claims on Kenya and Djibouti.

The Somali Airforce, Mengistu Haile Mariam said, violates Ethiopia's airspace daily. Mogadiscio trains, arms and sends sabotage groups into Ethiopia's territory for killing civilians, conducting explosions carrying out terrorist actions and trying to sow religious and nationalistic strife among the population of Hararge Province.

Somalia's claims that it has allegedly withdrawn its troops from Ethiopia's territory are utterly inconsistent, as they have only been regrouped and are acting now under a new guise. Mengistu Haile Mariam warned the Somali leadership about the possible dangerous aftermaths of their present policy.

Although we have won a military victory, he said, the war is very far from being over, and the Ethiopian people loyal to its revolutionary duty will carry on the struggle to a full and ultimate victory.

MONARCHISTS, CIA CANNOT STOP REVOLUTION, PMAC MEMBER SAYS

LD140032Y Moscow TASS in English 1857 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 13, TASS--The efforts of the promonarchic elements that hide under the guise of the Ethiopian Democratic Union and the People's Revolutionary Party which acted hand in glove with the CIA and other instruments of imperialism proved unable to stop the advance of the people's revolution in Ethiopia. This was stated by Petros Gebre, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC), in Awassa, the administrative center of Sidamo Province, in a speech to the graduates of the agricultural college. The broad mass of the Ethiopian people are united by the common struggle in defence of the revolutionary gains and a sense of common goals, the PMAC member emphasized.

Pointing out that land has now become the people's property, the PMAC member called on the college graduates who have been training in the fields of agronomy, veterinary science, and forestry, to make every effort to develop the province's agriculture.

ETHIOPIAN MINISTER RECEIVES CUBAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION

LD130026Y Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 13, TASS--Ethiopia, consistently pursuing the policy of non-alignment, at the same time resolutely comes out against imperialism, racism and colonialism, said Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, Ethiopian minister of foreign affairs.

Receiving the Cuban economic delegation visiting here, Feleke Gedle-Giorgis emphasized that over the four years of the revolution Ethiopia achieved considerable successes in economic development of the economy and in carrying out radical socio-economic transformations. The Cuban delegation is led by Paul Curbelo Morales, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. Ethiopia has been able to inflict a crushing defeat on internal reaction, uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country in the face of the open imperialist aggression.

Touching upon the situation in the Horn of Africa, the minister pointed out that a lasting peace and stability in the area can be guaranteed only with all countries' renunciation of territorial claims.

Feleke Gedle-Giorgis expressed deep gratitude to the countries of the socialist community, to Cuba and the Soviet Union, in the first place, for their unselfish support to the Ethiopian revolution. He emphasized that Ethiopia's relations with socialist countries are based on the principles of proletarian internationalism.

ETHIOPIA REFUTES EGYPTIAN ALLEGATION ABOUT NILE WATERS

LD142300Y Moscow TASS in English 1943 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, May 14, TASS--The Ethiopian Foreign Ministry published a statement in connection with fabrications by the Egyptian daily paper AKHBAR AL-YAWM, which carried an article grossly distorting Ethiopia's policy. Without any grounds whatsoever the paper alleges that Ethiopia intends to use the waters of the River Nile flowing from Lake Tana for political purposes--to pressure Egypt and Sudan.

From the very first days of the Ethiopian revolution of 1974, says the Foreign Ministry statement, reactionary Arab regimes supported by international imperialism colluded with the forces of internal reaction in order to retard its development and deflect it from the chosen path. This is why Ethiopia regards the provocative article by the Egyptian minister of irrigation as gross interference in its internal affairs. The Foreign Ministry stresses that Ethiopia has an inalienable right to use its natural riches for the benefit of the people, in the interests of the national development and the attainment of revolutionary goals.

However, the statement points out that, despite the unsupported allegations of the reactionary Arab regimes, revolutionary Ethiopia does not seek nor feel it possible to develop its natural wealth to the detriment of the peoples of neighbouring states.

ANGOLAN MINISTER AFFIRMS COUNTRY'S SOCIALIST COURSE

LD131542Y Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Rome, May 13, TASS--To oppose the imperialist offensive in Africa is one of the main foreign policy objectives of the People's Republic of Angola, the Italian newspaper AVANTI has been told by the foreign minister of the People's Republic of Angola Paolo Jorge.

Our country, he said, is bound to play a major role in full liberation of the continent, realisation of the principle of self-determination and independence of all peoples. Therefore we are giving all-round assistance to the countries which suffer from colonial oppression. We also want to make our contribution to consolidation of peace, to the process of disarmament and relaxation of international tension.

Answering one of the questions, Paolo Jorge noted that Cuba is giving assistance to Angola at the request of the Angolan side. Initially it was military aid--with the aim of giving rebuff to foreign aggression. But many people forget, the minister emphasized, that the Cuban aid to Angola is mainly of a peaceful nature. Cuban specialists are successfully assisting the development of the system of education, agriculture and construction.

The republic is pursuing the course of gradual nationalisation of enterprises, particularly those abandoned by colonialists, the foreign minister said, but shortage of cadres is a great obstacle. To get state enterprises going we are striving for cooperation with many states on a basis of bilateral agreements. But Angola has made a clear choice in favour of socialism and therefore it maintains particularly close relations with socialist countries. We are satisfied with cooperation with the Soviet Union and Cuba, the foreign minister stressed.

GUINEA-NIGERIA COMMUNIQUE CONDEMNING SOUTH AFRICA NOTED

LD132122Y Moscow TASS in English 1955 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Lagos, May 13, TASS--The aggression by the Republic of South Africa against the People's Republic of Angola is an example of glaring barbarity. It is a direct threat to peace in the African Continent's south. This is stated in the Joint Nigerian-Guinean communique on the results of the visit by Ahmed Sekou Toure, president of the Republic of Guinea, to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The communique calls on the world public to reject any manoeuvring aimed at setting up puppet regimes in Rhodesia and Namibia. The sides, the communique emphasises, state their full and unqualified support for the national-liberation movements of Africa's south.

PUBLIC SUPPORT, REFORMS OF AFGHAN GOVERNMENT NOTED

LD131314Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1900 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] The April events in Afghanistan have caused extensive comment abroad. With his analysis of this comment, here is our observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov.

In an attempt to distort the April developments, the reactionary Western propaganda is piling one invention upon another. It wrote about a bloodbath, alleged persecutions of Muslims, threats that the new regime was making to other countries of the Near East, and many other things. This is a familiar language. The forces of reaction and imperialism are giving a hostile reception to any progressive changes, whereever they occur. Be as it may, today, even those who are annoyed or scared by the changes in Afghanistan have to admit that the broader masses of the Afghan people have given their active support to the April revolution. A correspondent of the British FINANCIAL TIMES reported recently that the people of Kabul were not merely adjusting to the changed political situation, but were welcoming the takeover sincerely. Meetings of workers, farmers, and intellectuals are being held now throughout Afghanistan in support of the democratic regime.

In messages to the Revolutionary Council, the Muslim and other religious leaders of the country have declared, in refutation of the enemy's claims, that they support fully the new regime.

What were the forces that carried out the April revolution in Afghanistan? The chairman of the Revolutionary Council, Prime Minister Nur Mohammad Taraki, a well-known political and public figure in Afghanistan, provided a clear-cut and detailed explanation at a news conference in Kabul. He declared that it was not the close group of the army officers that inspired the April events. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, founded in January 1965, has carried out extensive education work in the army and has mobilized the progressively minded military to the struggle against the oppression and the tyranny of top aristocracy. The broad sections of the Afghan population were voicing their dissatisfaction with the existing situation that speeded up the outbreak of the revolutionary sentiment.

The program of the new Afghan Government and the People's Democratic Party incorporates the aspirations of the broad masses of the people, workers, farmers and local petit bourgeoisie. It outlines measures for carrying out a general land reform and other economic and social reforms that will contribute to the advance of the country and the well-being of its people. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has announced its adherence to the principle of independent and peaceable policy within the framework of the nonalined movement. The prime minister, Nur Mohammad Taraki, has declared that his country intends to maintain friendly relations with all the neighboring countries. The Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has already won wide international recognition.

VAJPAYEE EMPHASIZES FRIENDLY INDIAN-USSR TIES

LD132156Y Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 13, TASS--At the seminar "Indian Foreign Policy: Continuity and Changes" which opened here, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Indian minister of external affairs, said the friendly relations between India and the Soviet Union continue to develop successfully.

The minister pointed out that this has been convincingly reaffirmed by the official visit of Morarji Desai, prime minister of India, to the USSR last year, by the official visit of Andrei Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, to India, and by the holding in Delhi this year of the fourth meeting of the intergovernment Soviet-Indian Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical cooperation.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee emphasized that friendship and cooperation between India and the Soviet Union do not depend on which political party is in power in India.

Characterising the main directions of the country's foreign policy, Atal Bihari Vajpayee said India rendered and will render moral, material and political support to the liberation movement of the peoples of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa who struggle against the racist regimes.

India holds, the minister pointed out, that peace in the Middle East is possible only if Israel withdraws from the occupied Arab lands and recognized the legitimate rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to establish a state of their own.

Touching upon relations with China, Atal Bihari Vajpayee pointed out that it is unrealistic to speak of their full normalisation as long as the main problems in relations between the two states remain unsolved.

INDIAN NEWSPAPER PRAISES SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVES

LD121054Y Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, May 12 TASS--The Indian magazine LINK writes that in recent years the Soviet Union has initiated a whole number of international agreements which contributed to easing tensions in the world and slowing down the arms race. The article says that at present on the eve of the U.N. special session on disarmament, the Soviet Union's consistent struggle for peace, general and complete disarmament is of a particular importance for all peace-loving countries.

The magazine points out that the arms race is the result of the militarist aspirations of the military-industrial complexes of the USA and other NATO countries, which nurture plans for the production of new and new types of weapons of mass destruction, including the neutron bomb. Western monopolies engaging in the manufacture of weapons rake fabulous profits while 570 million people on the globe starve, 800 million people are illiterate, and about 1,000 million people have no housing accommodation.

LINK emphasizes that the entire progressive mankind expects that the U.N. special session on disarmament will become an important stage in the struggle against stirring up military psychosis, the arms race, for a lasting peace throughout the world.

JAPANESE 'CONSERVATIVES' ATTEMPT TO MINIMIZE SENKAKU FLAP

LD121521Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent I. Latyshev dispatch: "Profound Differences"]

[Text] Tokyo, 9 May--The appearance of a Chinese fishing flotilla near the Senkaku Islands has generated an outburst of heated arguements in Japanese political circles about Japanese-Chinese relations. Two opposing viewpoints have become clear.

One side says that credence should be given to statements by Peking officials alleging that the appearacne of the Chinese flotilla near the Senkaku Islands was an "accident" and, ignoring any links with Chinese claims to these Islands, efforts should be made to resume the talks with Peking on the conclusion of the so-called "treaty of peace and friendship." This position was clearly expressed in statements by Sunoa Sonoda, minister of foreign affairs, and Masayashi Chira, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. Adopting the Chinese explanation of the "accidental nature" of the incident, the Japanese foreign minister stated in parliament that he is satisfied with such an explanation and that this "ends the incident." Appealing for the renewal of Japanese-Chinese talks on the "treaty on peace and friendship" Sonoda stressed that he considered it expedient to discuss the Sankaku Islands ownership issue at the talks.

However, supporters of a Japanese-Chinese rapprochement are currently encountering sharp criticism from Japanese public opinion. Many press comments are typical in this respect. Revealing the falsity and absurdity of the Peking version, Japanese commentators emphasize a series of circumstances that demonstrate the premeditated and provocative nature of the Senkaku incident. It is particularly noted that 200 Chinese fishing vesssels arrived simultaneously at the Senkaku Islands area from various parts of China, clearly on instructions from above; Chinese fishing vessels never before gathered in such numbers to fish; many of the ostensible fishing vessels did not once bother to cast their nets during the entire incident. The press draws attention to the fact that banners bearing territorial claims to the islands were displayed on the Chinese vessels.

In an article entitled, "An 'Accident' Prepared in Advance", Japan TIMES commentator Masaru Ogawa wrote: "Everything testifies that the Chinese incursion into the Senkaku zone was a deliberate, premeditated incident." The Chinese side, he believes, is attempting to create a precedent for hegemonic claims.

The press and many prominent figures in Japan have declared, with unprecedented clarity, their objections to any impetuous resumption of the talks with Peking about a "peace and friendship treaty", and are stressing the need for a resoulute rebuff of the unceremonious pressure that Peking is exerting on Japan's Government. In particular, many representatives of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party have stated their open disagreement with Sonoda's policy. To counterbalance the intentions of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, they insist primarily on the exposure of Peking's actual intentions and on the inclusion in the Japanese-Chinese talks of the Senkaku Islands ownership issue as a preliminary condition to the discussion of the treaty that Peking persistently pursues. Y. Nakasone, prominent figure among Japanese conservatives and chairman of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's Issues Commiteee, disagrees with the intention of his diplomat colleagues to silence the disputes with Peking concerning ownership of the Senkaku Islands. Nakasone's statement is considered as evidence of the exacerbated disagreements among the ruling Liberal Democratic Party's leadership regarding the questions of developing Japanese-Chinese relations. The policy of nonresistance to Peking also encounters a resolute rebuff from the Japanese Communist Party.

Judging by all indications, the wave of protests aroused in Japan by Peking's provocative behavior and unceremonious pressure on Japanese political circles has created new obstacles to the treaty advocates' efforts to quickly conclude the Japanese-Chinese treaty that is designed by Peking to involve Japan in an anti-Soviet political alliance.

U.S., JAPANESE MILITARY OFFICIALS DISCUSS SECURITY ALLIANCE

LD121052Y Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, May 12, TASS--Questions of further consolidating the Japanese-American military alliance were discussed here at a meeting between the head of Japan's National Defence Agency S. Kanemaru and the commander of U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific area Admiral M. Wiesner. At the meeting, S. Kanemaru voiced in particular Japan's readiness to increase spendings on the upkeep of American troops stationed on its territory.

The local press notes that the Japanese made this new concession under strong pressure by the American side which is long demanding a greater Japanese share in the upkeep of U.S. Armed Forces.

JAPAN SEEKS INCREASED ASIAN ROLE BY DIPLOMATIC CONTACTS

LD111316Y Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 11 May 78 LD

["Once Again Only Promises"--TASS headline]

[Text] Tokyo, May 11, TASS--Toshio Komoto, the minister of foreign trade and industry of Japan, returned here from a week's journey to Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia. Following a recent visit to that region by Premier Takeo Fukuda, this trip and the talks held were evidence of a considerable activisation of Japanese diplomacy in Southeast Asia. Its purpose is to strengthen Japan's economic and political positions in that region.

The local press points out that Japan regards Southeast Asia as a major market for the sale of industrial production and the purchase of raw materials for its industry. Japan's monopoly giants, suffering from the protracted economic recessio , are also attracted by cheap labor, holding out the prospect of good profits. That is why fresh capital investments and the building of Japanese enterprises in Southeast Asia loomed large in Komoto's talks.

The talks held in the capitals of the three countries brought out sharp differences between the sides. The Southeast Asian countries expressed bitter dissatisfaction over the chronic disproportion of their trade with Japan. Japan's favourable trade balance with its partners from Southeast Asia in 1977 exceeded 2,000 million dollars. Those countries urged Japan to revise its trade policy and establish equal and mutually-advantageous relations. As before, the Japanese side confined itself to promises.

Besides the economic expansion, Tokyo takes an increasing interest in the strengthening of its political influence in that region, laying emphasis, above all, on the ASEAN countries. This tendency is fanned by the United States, which regards Japan as a tool for exerting political and economic pressure on Asian developing countries.

It has been learned here that Komoto after the current session of parliament will visit the other ASEAN countries: Thailand and the Philippines.

BRAZILIAN PRESIDENT REFUSES INVITATION TO VISIT U.S.

LD072102Y Moscow TASS in English 2030 GMT 7 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 7, TASS--The New York TIMES newspaper reports that the Brazilian President Ernesto Geisel has refused to pay an official visit to the USA in reply to the invitation of President Carter who visited that Latin American country late last March. The paper writes, citing a statement by an official spokesman for Ernesto Geisel, that the Brazilian president motivated his decision by "shortage of time." However, the paper thinks that the real reason for his refusal is the continuing worsening of relations between the two countries.

Profound public indignation in Brazil is caused by Washington's open interference in the country's internal affairs. The Geisel government last year even turned down American military aid in protest against U.S. attempts to bring pressure to bear on Brazil under the pretext of its "human rights" campaign.

Brazil is worried also over the growing trade deficit with the USA and Washington's protectionist measures against Brazilian exports. The U.S. has recently been clearly concerned over its waning influence in Brazil and the rapid penetration there of the West German capital.

The American side had pinned great hopes on Carter's recent visit to Brazilia. However, the expectations that the worsening bilateral relations could be improved have not been justified. The New York TIMES has to admit that the reception given to President Carter was cool and that no progress has been reached to overcome differences between the two countries.

SUPREME SOVIET HEAD RECEIVES CUBAN ASSEMBLY DELEGATION

PL121749Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 May 78 FL

[Text] Moscow, USSR--Aleksey Shitikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Council of the Union, today has received in this capital the delegation representing the Cuban People's Government National Assembly, which is headed by its Vice President Raul Roa, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State. In reference to the Cuban delegation's visit to the USSR, Shitikov pointed out that the exchange of delegations contributes to the furthering and expanding of the ties between our fraternal states.

CPSU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN COLOMBIA AT CP'S INVITATION

LD121441Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 May 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Arrival of CPSU Delegation in Colombia"]

[Text] Bogota, 9 May--A CPSU delegation comprising A.N. Aksenov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and second secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee (head of the delegation) and K.N. Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, has arrived here at the invitation of the Colombian Communist Party.

At the airport the delegation was met by Gilberto Vieira, secretary general of the Colombian Communist Party, by members of the party's leadership, and also by V.I. Andreyev, USSR ambassador to Colombia.

GUYANA'S BURNHAM HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE ON FOREIGN TOUR

LD151022Y Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] Georgetown, May 14, TASS--Prime Minister Forbes Burnham of Guyana described his recent visit to the Soviet Union and some other countries as extremely useful for the country both politically and economically. Addressing a press conference here, he stressed that in the course of the visit, detailed discussions were held on questions of bilateral cooperation, as well as international problems, in particular, problems of disarmament, easing of international tension and eradication of the vestiges of colonialism.

The prime minister specially noted the high evaluation of the movement of non-aligned countries as an important factor for strengthening peace, as well as the active role played by Guyana in that movement. The recent foreign tour, the prime minister stressed, has contributed to a strengthening of the positions of the republic in the international arena.

F. Burnham pointed to the importance of the agreement signed with the Soviet Union on broadening trade and cooperation, and noted that the terms for Soviet-Guyana cooperation in the field of production and processing of fish and other marine resources are of a mutually beneficial character.

FORMER BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT BLAMES CIA FOR HIS DOWNFALL

LD142355Y Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 14 May 78 LD

[Text] New York, May 14, TASS--Ever new facts are coming to light, indicating the scope of U.S. subversive activities in foreign countries.

The CIA of the USA was accused of gross interference in the internal affairs of Bolivia by a former Bolivian President A. Ovando Candoz, addressing a press conference at La Paz. He stated that the CIA was implicated in the overthrow of his government in 1970, for it inspired the plot carried out by the commanders of the three wings of the armed forces and representatives of local reaction. "My government's striving for political independence, our course to protect the national natural [word indistinct], expressed in the nationalisation of the property of the American Gulf Oil Corporation operating in the country, seriously infringed the interests of the USA in Bolivia, [?and led] to their open interference in the internal affairs of this sovereign republic."

The United States resorts to the policy of threats and repressions, aimed at global suppression of progressive processes, at destabilisation of democratic governments and support for the existing repressive regimes.

A classical example of a brazen interference by the American subversive agency is Chile, where, following the 1973 coup, organised by the CIA, a bloody fascist regime was installed. Africa has become a target of special attention by the CIA in recent years. This is confirmed among other things by a book just published in the USA, in which J. Stockwell, a former CIA collaborator, testifies that the U.S. spy agency carried out secret subversive operations in a number of African countries including Angola and Ghana, organized and financed the campaign for recruiting mercenaries for combat operations in the territories of independent African states.

Facts irrefutably indicate that the U.S. is functioning as a world policemen in the international arena, sponsoring reactionary and racist regimes, appearing as a rabid opponent of the forces of progress and democracy.

TRIAL OF YURIY ORLOV BEGINS IN MOSCOW 15 MAY

LD150848Y Moscow TASS in English 0827 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, May 15, TASS--A trial of Yuriy Orlov who is accused of a crime stipulated in Part One of Article 70 of the criminal code of the Russian Federation was started here today at an open session of the court.

Orlov's case is being heard by the Moscow City Court consisting of presiding Judge Valentina Lubentsova and People's Assessors Aleksandr Lebedev and Gennadiy Tsvetkov. The state accusation versus Yuriy Orlov is supported by Deputy Procurator of Moscow Sergey Yemelyanov. The defendant's lawyer is member of the Moscow City College of Barristers Yevgeniy Shalman.

Present in the courtroom are Orlov's relatives and representatives of the public.

The court started hearings on the case.

Further Report

LD151000Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0923 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--The legal trial of the Yuriy Orlov case commenced here today. From the criminal indictment, which was announced at an open legal session, it emerges that Orlov--between 1973 and 1977--was involved in anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda aimed at undermining and weakening Soviet power and that he systemtically prepared and distributed documents containing slanderous fabrications discrediting the Soviet state and public order.

In the prepared and distributed documents Orlov cast aspersions on the political and economic system of the USSR, and on the internal and foreign policy of the USSR. In addition, he called for the subversion of the foundations of the existing order in the USSR and for a struggle against it.

In answer to the question of the presiding Judge on whether he admitted his guilt, Orlov agreed with the facts of the accusation but did not admit his guilt.

The court began interrogating the accused.

TRIAL OPENS IN TBILISI; DEFENDANTS PLEAD GUILTY

LD150928Y Moscow TASS in English 0912 GMT 15 May 78 LD

[Text] Tbilisi, May 15, TASS--The Tbilisi City Court at its open session today started hearing the case of Zviyad Gamsakurdiya, who has two previous convictions, and his accomplice, Merab Kostava, who are accused of committing a crime stipulated in Part One of Article 71 of the penal code of the Georgian Soviet Republic (the Caucasus). The case is being heard by the court consisting of the presiding Judge A. Kobakhidze and People's Assessors E. Narimanidze, a worker of a mechanical plant, and L. Grigoliya, a member of the staff of the Institute of Economics. The indictment is supported by Assistant Procurator of Georgia G. Ugulava. The defendants' lawyers are members of Georgia's College of Barristers M. Alkhazishviliy and O. Nikolaishviliy.

Representatives of the public and the defendants' relatives are in the courtroom.

When the indictment was read out, the presiding judge asked the defendants if they plead guilty and Gamsakhurdiya and Kostava pleaded guilty. Besides that Gamsakhurdiya said that he repents committing the crime.

SUSLOV LEAVES STAVROPOL FOR MOSCOW 13 MAY

LD131844Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Text] Comrade Suslov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Stavropol for Moscow today. He had taken part in the festivities devoted to awarding the Order of October Revolution to Stavropol.

During His stay in the kray, Comrade Suslov visited the Stavropol motor vehicle trailer works, was shown the fields of the Kuzminskiy and Chapayeva kolkhozes in Kochubeyevskiy Rayon, and had a talk with (Nagornyy), a prominent beet grower and Hero of Socialist Labor. In addition, Comrade Suslov visited Nevinnomyssk, where he familiarized himself with the Azot production association and with new residential districts. He also had a look at the Nevinnomyssk Canal.

MOSCOW RAYKOM, GORKOM FIRST SECRETARIES ATTEND SEMINAR

LD140130Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 May 78 LD

[Summary] A 3-day seminar of first secretaries of Moscow Raykom and heads of departments of Moscow Gorkom has ended. The seminar devoted attention to questions of raising labor productivity; work quality; accelerating rates of scientific and technical progress; improving systems of planning and managing the economy; developing socialist competition in light of Brezhnev's Far East recommendations and his speech at the 18th Komsomol Congress.

"Speaking at the seminar was Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow Gorkom.

"Lectures were given by Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Kirillin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology; Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the 'Olimpiyad-80' Board Committee; and others."

SHCHERBITSKIY ADDRESSES UKRAINIAN PARTY AKTIV MEETING

LD121428Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 12 May 78 LD

[Text] The tasks of party organizations for further improving the style and methods of organizational and political work and strengthening party guidance of the economy--tasks stemming from the propositions contained in Comrade Brezhnev's book "Rebirth"--were discussed today at a meeting of the party aktiv of the Ukraine. A report was delivered by Shcherbitskiy, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Central Committee of the Ukrainian Communist Party.

Many of the participants in the meeting worked with Comrade Brezhnev when he headed major party organizations of the republic, Zaporozhye and Dnepropetrovsk, and learned from him the science and art of party leadership.

Their speeches stressed the need to take all-round account of historical experience, to extract lessons from it and to clearly determine the tasks and means of solving them by relying on the collective wisdom of the party and the people. The meeting conducted an all-round analysis of the activity of the most important sectors of the Ukrainian national economy.

Excerpts of Shcherbitskiy Speech

AU121930 [Editorial Report AU] Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian at 1630 GMT on 12 May carries a 35-minute report on the republic's party aktiv meeting in Kiev, including recorded excerpts from the opening speech and the report delivered in Russian by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and Ukrainian CP Central Committee first secretary. Speaking about the importance of Brezhnev's books, Shcherbitskiy states:

"I would like to tell you, comrades, that the day before yesterday, on 10 May, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev telephoned me. Leonid Ilich inquired about the state of affairs in agriculture, particularly about the state of sowing and the development of stockbreeding. He then asked how metallurgists and coal miners were working, what was going on in construction. Thus we had a lengthy and substantial conversation. Having informed Leonid Ilich on all these matters, I said that we still had many shortcomings and, to improve the style of our organizational and political work, we resolved to hold a party aktiv meeting to discuss tasks stemming from the theses contained in his book 'Rebirth'. Comrade Brezhnev conveyed greetings to all participants in our meeting and wished us new successes in fulfilling all our plans and socialist pledges."

Extolling Brezhnev's qualities and services, Shcherbitskiy briefly deals with Soviet foreign policy.

"Leonid Ilich's truly invaluable service lies in the elaboration and implementation of our party and state's foreign political line, of the program for the struggle for peace and the security of peoples. The world's peoples regard our party's Central Committee general secretary and the head of our Soviet state as an outstanding and far-sighted statemen and ardent fighter for the working people's interests, for the triumph of the principles of social justice, humanism and true democracy. [applause]

"The wide international response caused by the books 'Malaya Zemlya' and 'Rebirth,' by Leonid Ilich's speeches delivered in Vladivostok and at the 18th Komsomol Congress and by the results of his visit to the FRG are evidence of this. The Soviet people were able to see once again how vigorously and persistently our party's Central Committee, the Politburo and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally pursued our party's Leninist foreign political line. While consistently pursuing the program outlined by the 25th CPSU Congress, our country has recently raised a number of cardinal proposals of principled significance aimed at consolidating detente, at discontnuing the senseless arms race and the production of means for the mass extermination of people, at developing and consolidating cooperation among all states in the name of peace and progress. Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's visit to the FRG--which, as is known, has become a great event of an international scale--once again clearly and convincingly showed the entire world the profoundly peace-loving and constructive nature of the foreign policy pursued by the Soviet Union. In addition, it made a great contribution to consolidating security on the European Continent. [applause]

"Our people note with pride that Leonid Ilich, with great mastery and skill, with characteristic wisdom, represwnts our country at the most responsible international forums, consistently defends the vital interests of the workers class and of all working people, and resolutely rebuffs all those who have not managed to get out of the moss-covered cold war trenches. Therefore, we have every reason to say that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev carries high the banner of peace, the banner of communism. [applause]

"The Soviet Ukraine's communists and working people wish Leonid Ilich inexhautible energies and ever new successes in the fruitful activity for the benefit of our great socialist fatherland, in the name of the triumph of the lofty ideals of communism. [applause]

"Like all Soviet people, the republic's working people unanimously and completely support our party's Leninist policy, the fruitful and purposeful activity of its Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Politburo with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev at the head. [applause]

"The Ukraine's people confirm this support with their selfless toil to implement the historic 25th CPSU Congress decisions, with their redoubled contribution toward strengthening the economic and defense potential of our great socialist fatherland."

PROGRAM ANSWERS LISTENERS' QUESTIONS ON EMIGRATION

LD121214Y Riga in Latvian to Europe 1930 GMT 26 Apr 78 LD

["Dzintarkrasts" broadcast for Latvians abroad]

[Excerpt] We continue replying to questions from our listeners in foreign countries. The first question is: Is it possible to emigrate from the USSR?

"Dzintarkrasts" replies: Yes, it is possible. But it must be immediately remarked that the number of emigrants is insignificant. Most of those emigrating are people going away in order to be reunited with their families, or to marry foreign citizens.

Soviet legislation and regulations concerning emigration are in full agreement with the UN international agreement of 16 December, 1966 on citizens' rights and political rights. This agreement, among other things, states that a citizen's right to leave his country to take up permanent residence in another country can be restricted only in cases connected with the protection of security, public order, health or ethics of the inhabitants, as well as the freedom and rights of the inhabitants of the country the citizen is leaving.

It follows from this that in some instances a decision on emigration can be deferred until such time when close relatives have completed regulating their relations, including their material circumstances. A decision on emigration can also be postponed for a time for persons who have state secrets at their disposal and also for persons who have just completed military service in some particularly important military speciality. At the end of the secrecy period, the question about the person's emigration is reviewed once more.

The second question is: Does a citizen's application to emigrate affect his employment and social status?

"Dzintarkvasts" replies: Usually it does not. Insignificant exceptions are persons working in defense industry enterprises as well as those working in establishments connected with secret scientific work. In these instances, persons, in accordance with trade union organizations and the labor legal code, can be relieved of their work. These persons will be given other work.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 12-14 MAY

LD150522 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0000 GMT on 12 May reports that in the Kuban, the barley has come into ear. The winter wheat will also soon produce ears. Almost 2 million hectares are occupied by winter crops this year. A total of 27,000 harvesters and combines will be at work during the harvest. In Buryatiya the sowing of grain crops is going apace. Over 1,500 sowing units are at work in the fields.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that in Omskaya Oblast the wheat area will occupy almost 2.5 million hectares. The wider use of new, higher-yield varieties of local selection will, according to specialists, help to give an extra 150,000-200,000 tons of grain.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that sowing of spring grain crops was completed today in Uralskaya Oblast, Kazakhstan. The first shoots have appeared. Sowing is almost complete in Aktyubinskaya and Semipalatinskaya oblasts, and work has begun in the north of the republic. Sowing in Krasnoyarskiy Kray is going on in difficult weather conditions. After hot sunny weather 2 days ago the central rayons have today been hit by snowstorms. So a change of tactics has been necessary. The complex detachments are now working on moisture retention and fertilizer application. Potato planting has ended in Kirgizia, most of it in the mountainous region of Issyk-Kulskaya Oblast. Mineral fertilizer has also been applied. Mass hay cutting has begun in Dagestan. After ample spring rains a good harvest is expected.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that sowing of summer grain crops ended today in Uralskaya Oblast; 1.3 million hectares of barley and wheat has been sown. The first shoots have appeared and are developing well. Aktyubinskaya and Semipalatinskaya oblasts are nearing completion of sowing. In the past ten days 3 million hectares has been sown to summer crops in Kazakhstan.

At 1500 GMT the radio reports that mass sowing is under way in the mid-Urals where spring crops will this year occupy 1.5 million hectares. To date in Sverdlovskaya Oblast 100,000 hectares have been sown.

At 0000 GMT on 13 May the radio reports that mass fieldwork has been commenced by the land cultivators of Tomskaya Oblast. Moisture has been retained in 2 to 3 days in the majority of farms. Southern rayons have started sowing of early grain crops. Over 400 transport sowing complexes and detachments, the majority of which intend to complete the sowing of grain crops in 5-6 working days, are now at work on the fields of the oblast.

At 0100 GMT correspondent (Nikolay Kopytov) reports on fieldwork in Kirgizia. A total of 40,000 hectares of irrigated land has been allocated to sugar beets in the Chu valley this year. The shoots came up well, but due to hail resowing had to be carried out, and in these areas green shoots are now in evidence. Interrow work is being carried out after the rains. Mineral fertilizers are also being applied. In the south of the republic, the cotton workers had a surprise when the weather, which had been almost summery, turned cold again. Despite this, the shoots have come out on the greater part of the area--66,000 hectares. On the remaining 6,000 hectares the struggle for the shoots is being waged. A total in excess of 200,000 tons of cotton is promised.

At 0200 GMT the radio reports that Kirgiz machine operators are completing the sowing of corn for grain. The areas under this crops have been extended to 30,000 hectares over the past few years. It has been decided to reap an average of not under 50 quintals of grain per hectare.

At 0500 GMT the radio reports that in terms of the rate of spring fieldwork the farms in Moscovskaya Oblast are ahead of all the other oblasts of the central economic region. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes that by 12 May grain crops and legumes had been sown on 60 percent of the areas allotted. Tselinogradskaya Oblast, southern rayons have commenced mass sowing of grain crops. By this morning grain crops covered 60,000 hectares in the oblast. In Tatarskaya ASSR, the first million hectares are under spring crops to date. Potato planting and corn sowing are being carried out at the same time. In Kurskaya Oblast, the sown sugar beets are being tended.

At 0730 GMT the radio reports that Tashkentskaya and Surkhandarinskaya oblasts in Uzbekistan have completed their rice sowing. This year rice will be sown on 100,000 hectares in the republic.

At 0830 GMT the radio reports that the majority of Primorskiy Kray farms have completed the sowing of early grain grain crops, annual grasses and sunflowers and the planting of potatoes.

At 1100 GMT the radio reports that selective sowing of wheat has started in Omskaya Oblast. This year the area allocated to the higher-yielding Sibiryachka-4 and Omskaya-9 varieties will be considerably enlarged. Spring crops have now been sown on about 400,000 hectares in Latvia, which is half the planned area. The weather has been hampering sowing, particularly in eastern areas of the republic where there has been snow. The farms of Amurskaya Oblast have set about mass potato planting. The crop will be planted on an area of over 13,000 hectares. For the first time the crop will be grown in the zone adjoining the Baykal-Amur railway. The laying out of new orchards has been completed in the south of the country in the republics of the Transcaucasus and Central Asia. New orchards are being created on an area of 150,000 hectares this year. Throughout the country as a whole orchards and vineyards occupy a total area of about 5 million hectares, of which the population possesses 2 million hectares in household and so-called collective plots. The preliminary assessment is that the fruit harvest this year will in the main be good. The population's orchards produce half the total fruit yield.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that in the past 24 hours 500,000 hectares of summer crops was sown in Kazakhstan, the best result of the sowing season. By today 7 million hectares had been sown to summer crops. Mass wheat sowing is under way in Altayskiy Kray; about 8,000 sowing units are at work; over half are wide-range ones.

At 0500 GMT on 14 May the radio reports that in Orenburgskaya Oblast grain workers today started sowing early graincrops on the 4th million hectares. The work front has shifted to the north and east. Sowing of corn is today being completed in Chechen-Ingushskaya ASSR. Good sprouts of corn have come up in Dagestan after the spring rain. Interrow work on them began today at frontranking farms.

At 1200 GMT the radio reports that the sowing campaign in the Altay is gathering speed. Early graincrops and wheat are being sown on over 100,000 hectares every 24 hours. This figure will double in the second half of May when sowing will begin in the Kulunda steppe. Specialists note the good condition of the soil and the high quality of work. Mass tending of crops is underway in the Ukraine and Belorussia. Mineral fertilizers are being applied to winter, spring and eared crops in the southern Black Sea region. Belorussian machine operators are treating plantations with a special preparation which protects them from pests and promises a high yield in the autumn.

At 1600 GMT the radio reports that the sowing of corn has started in the Saratovskaya Oblast. Corn will be sown on 500,000 hectares there; 20 percent will be sown on irrigated lands. Corn here gives about 300-400 or more quintals of green mass per hectare.

At 1900 GMT in an interview, Petr Ivanovich Susidko, director of the All-Union Corn Research Institute and VASKHNIL corresponding member, says that this spring 3 million hectares will be sown to grain corn in the country. Despite basically unfavorable. weather conditions, the conditions for cultivating corn this year are quite favorable thanks to the condition of the soil before sowing. Sowing is taking place in normal conditions, and the initial development of the crops is at present quite favorable This year for the first time corn farmers will be using methods of cultivating the crop developed by the corn research institute, enabling them to obtain yields of 80-100 quintals per hectare. This year many mechanized links and detachments in Dnepropetrovskaya, Zaporozhskaya, Khersonskaya and other oblasts will be trying to achieve such yields. Next year this experience should be applied to all areas cultivating corn under irrigation.

PRAVDA REPORTS GEORGIAN EARLY POTATO-GROWING PROGRESS

LD120901Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent G. Lebanidze interview with D. Patiashvili, secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee: "They Have Set About It Together"]

[Text] Good early potato shoots enthuse the crop farmers. Together with southern crops like tea, citrus fruit, grapes and fruit, the "second bread" is also being firmly established in the fields of our kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

PRAVDA correspondent G. Lebanidze asked D. Patiashvili, secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, to describe the progress of work on the potato plantations and the measures which are being taken to proviue the country with more foodstuffs.

Georgia has favorable soil and climatic conditions for increasing production of early potatoes, he said. The collective of the Arakhloyskiy Sovkhoz, Bolnisskiy Rayon, has shown a good example of the skillful use of this potential. The farm's crop farmers have carried out specialization, expanding the area sown to early potatoes to 520 hectares. An irrigation system has been constructed. As a result harvests are increasing and the cost of output is falling with every passing year.

The Georgian CP Central Committee has approved the initiative of the Bolnisskiy Rayon agricultural workers. At the same time measures have been outlined and are being implemented for the construction of irrigation systems on other farms and the creation of standard potato storehouses, vernalization units [yarovizatory] and railroad unloading areas. A scientifically substantiated system for cultivating early potatoes has been elaborated. A firm material and technical basis for the specialization of the sector is thus being created.

The improvement of the standard of farming, the efficient use of fertilizers, the improvement of the quality of planting stock, and the irrigation of plantations have enabled the kolkhozes and sovkhozes to rapidly effect a sharp increase in production of early potatoes and to increase procurements to 65,000 tons as early as 1977. Last year 36,000 tons of potatoes instead of the 30,000 according to the plan were dispatched to Moscow and Leningrad.

Having attentively analyzed the results achieved and relying on the experience of leading farms, the Georgian CP Central Committee and republic Council of Ministers recently adopted a resolution on the further intensification of production specialization and concentration and an increase in procurements of early potatoes in 1977 through 1980. By the end of this period it is planned to expand the sown area to 7,000 hectares and sell the state up to 78,500 tons of "the second bread."

I want to express deep thanks to the farmers of Belorussia. They not only supplied the Georgian farms with good-quality seeds but shared with us their rich experience of cultivating this valuable crop. Our friends' advice and aid greatly helped the common cause.

To harvest, procure and store the entire early potato harvest right up to the very last potato--that is the slogan under which a large amount of work by the party organizations, soviet and agricultural organs and all farmers of the republic has been launched on the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Recently five standard vernalization units were constructed and other premises have been adapted. This makes it possible to vernalize up to 2,600 tons of seed potatoes.

The capacity of the storehouses has now been increased to 21,000 tons. The farms have been allocated the necessary agricultural equipment, fertilizers and toxic chemicals. Some seven railroad unloading platforms have been rapidly erected. The republic will now be able to unload at least 1,200-1,500 tons of potatoes daily.

Thanks to production specialization, the improvement of the standard of mechanization, and the introduction of progressive agrotechnical methods, the Bolnisskiy and Marneulskiy rayon potato growers are raising a good harvest, increasing profitability and reducing the prime cost of fresh produce. Thus Bolnisskiy Rayon farms obtained a profit of about R4 million from potato sales while Marneulskiy Rayon farms obtained R1.2 million. Instead of the 7,120 tons envisaged by the plan, the Fakhraloyskiy Sovkhoz, Bolnisskiy Rayon, sold the state 10,900 tons of potatoes while the Arakhloyskiy Sovkhoz, with a target of 8,260 tons, transported 10,500 tons of potatoes to the procurement points.

The workers of Bolnisskiy and Marneulskiy rayons acted as the leaders of socialist competition for the ahead-of-schedule fulfillment of the target for the dispatch of potatoes to Moscow and Leningrad.

Today all the crop farmers' concerns are for the harvest. Having overcome the whims of the present spring, the republic's kolkhozes and sovkhozes have completed the planting of early potatoes within the optimum deadlines. A little time will elapse and the working people of the industrial centers will receive tens of thousands of tons of fresh potatoes.

The steadily growing shoots are giving grounds for stating that this year the republic's crop farmers will honorably fulfill the plans and socialist pledges for the procurement and dispatch of early potatoes.

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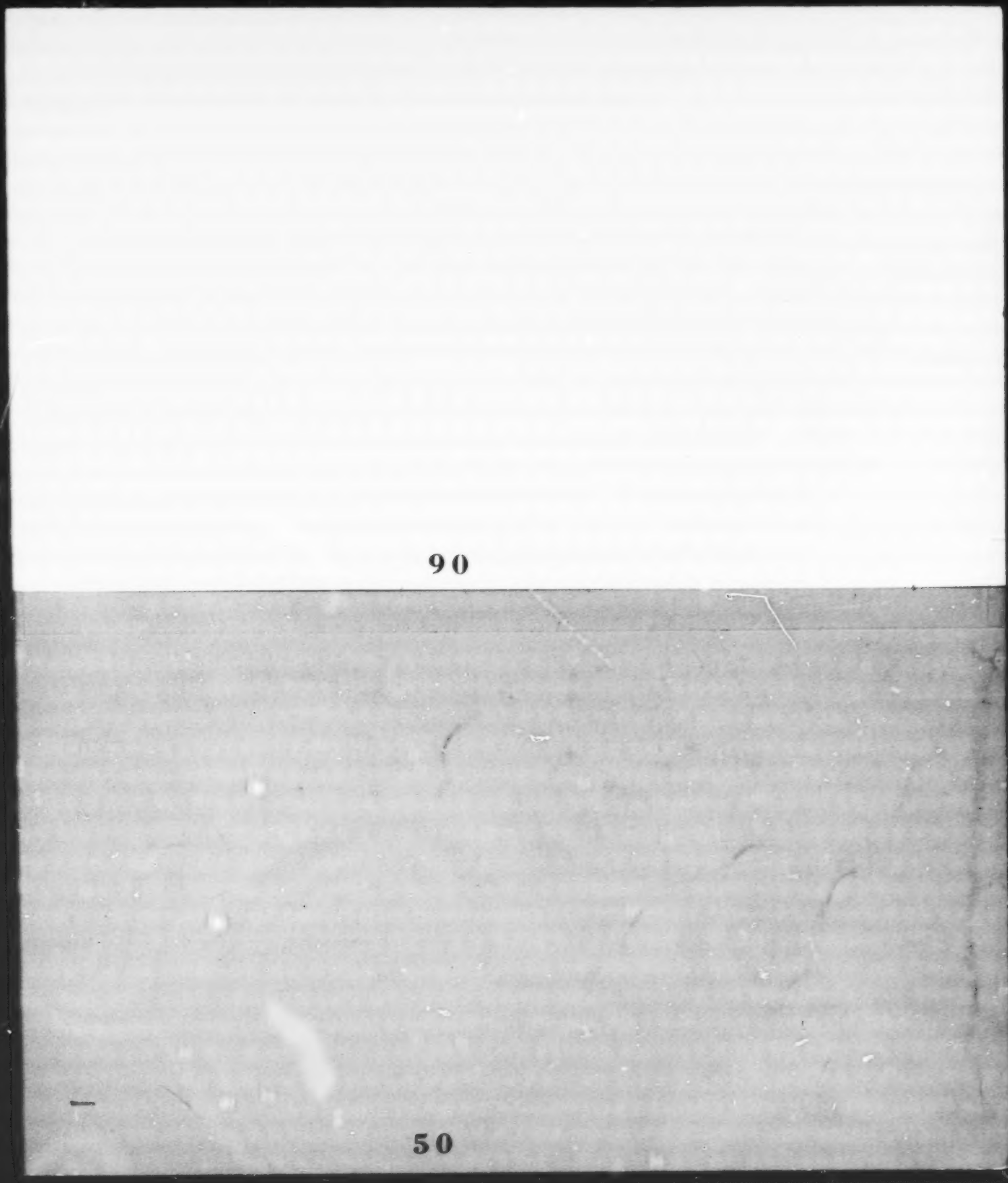
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